



PRESS RELEASE

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Grand Prize Winners Named in National Education Competition *Students, teacher will receive VIP tour of Hawaii and trip to Washington D.C.*

SALT LAKE CITY, UT – (April 17, 2006) — The winners of the fifth annual Igniting Creative Energy Challenge showed this year that a young generation is ready to fight to save our natural resources. The Challenge is an educational competition administered by the National Energy Foundation (NEF). It is sponsored and funded through an educational grant by Johnson Controls, Inc with additional support provided by the United States Energy Association (USEA).

“Johnson Controls is proud to sponsor an innovative program that improves educational opportunities focused on energy and the environment,” said C. David Myers, president of the building efficiency business at Johnson Controls. “We congratulate the winners on their great work, and are pleased to recognize them and their original ideas.”

The four Grand Prize Winners — three students and a teacher — will receive a hosted educational trip to Hawaii April 18 - 23, as well as the opportunity to participate in the June 13-14 Energy Efficiency Forum in Washington, D.C., where they will share their Challenge entries and ideas with government and energy leaders.

Since first launching five years ago, the Challenge has drawn approximately 10,000 students to participate.

“Yet again, we had such amazing entries that truly show the capabilities of these students to lead efforts to save energy and the environment,” said Edward A. Dalton, president and CEO of National Energy Foundation. “The quality of our entries continues to grow by leaps and bounds every year. We are thrilled that students enjoy taking part in the Challenge.”

The Igniting Creative Energy Challenge is open to all students in grades K-12 in the U.S. and Canada (excluding the province of Quebec). Students are asked to submit entries that reflect the competition theme, “Igniting Creative Energy”, and demonstrate an understanding of what an individual, family or group can do to make a difference in their home, school or community. Additionally, one teacher with the highest average score of student work from 15 or more qualifying entries is chosen as a winner.

Projects submitted for the competition included essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music, videos, web sites and science projects. The judging staff consisted of over 25 members from several states with expertise in science, math, music, gifted & talented education, art and environmental resources. Judging was done in preliminary and final rounds.

This year’s Igniting Creative Energy Challenge winners are:

Elementary Division: Cassandra Collard, fifth grade, Heritage Elementary School, Davis School District, Layton, Utah — Cassandra created an “I Spy” themed book that highlighted 101 ways to save energy at home by designing and photographing scenes from her dollhouse.

Middle School Division: Rebecca Richter, 6th grade, Meadowbrook Elementary School, Waukesha School District, Waukesha, Wisconsin — Rebecca designed a four-week children’s meal program for fast food restaurants that includes age-appropriate energy savings items in place of toys.

High School Division: Andrew Maruska, senior, Crawford County Area Vocational Technical School, Crawford Central District, Meadville, Pennsylvania – Andrew countered the misperception that there isn't an energy crisis through a researched recommendation to create billboards that promote the fight to save energy and the environment.

Teacher Division: Zan Lombardo, gifted and talented teacher, Balley Forge Middle School, Tredyffrin-Easttown School District, Wayne, Pennsylvania — Ms. Lombardo led her students in making a giant mural to show how they helped the environment. Each student established one energy-efficient habit for a month and quantified their savings, representing each unit of savings as a dot on the mural.

Students were also asked to write a one-page summary that included their motivation for submitting an entry and what they hope their project accomplishes. Cassandra Collard wrote: "I hope that people will start doing the simple things they can do around the house to save energy. I hope that my project will be fun to look at, but that it helps people learn also."

The winning entries for 2006 are posted at www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org. There are also links on the National Energy Foundation and Johnson Controls web sites.

Johnson Controls, Inc., is a global market leader in automotive systems and facility management and control. In the automotive market, it is a major supplier of integrated seating and interior systems, and batteries. For more information on Johnson Controls, Inc., visit the company's web site at www.johnsoncontrols.com.

The United States Energy Association is the United States member of the World Energy Council. USEA is composed of approximately 150 public and private energy-related organizations, corporations and government agencies.

National Energy Foundation is a unique 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the development, dissemination, and implementation of supplementary educational materials, programs and courses that relate primarily to energy, water, natural resources, science and math, technology, conservation and the environment. These teaching resources recognize the importance and contribution of natural resources to our economy, our national security, the environment and our quality of life.

Visit www.nef1.org to find out more about NEF. The official Igniting Creative Energy website, is www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org

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