

Middle school students compete for national honors in Army's national STEM competition

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Ninth annual eCYBERMISSION event features special appearances by Discovery Channel's Howe & Howe Technologies and distinguished Army leadership

June 15, 2011 – Baltimore – Sixteen middle school teams from across the country will travel to Washington, D.C., this month to compete for national honors in eCYBERMISSION, the Army's national Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competition.

The 2011 National Judging and Educational Event (NJ&EE) will recognize students for their innovative approaches to using scientific inquiry to solve problems in their local communities, and will award a national title in each grade.

The NJ&EE takes place June 20-24 in the nation's capitol. It promises to be a week filled with activities to fuel the students' interest in STEM fields.

Fifty-nine students and their Team Advisors from the 16 national finalist teams will vie for the national title in their grade and \$5,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds. Combined with their previous state and regional awards, each student on the national winning teams will bring home up to \$8,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds.

“The U.S. Army is dependent on the future of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and we are relying on today's students to become the leaders of tomorrow,” said Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM).

“The students we will honor at the annual eCYBERMISSION national event have demonstrated creative thinking, a desire to learn, and a strong understanding of research and experimentation. We are proud of the work they have accomplished and look forward to the success they will undoubtedly achieve in the future,” Justice added.

NJ&EE highlights include:

- Keynote address by Heidi Shyu, acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (June 24).

- Special guest appearance by Michael and Geoffrey Howe and the crew of Discovery Channel’s popular “Howe and Howe Technologies” program, who specialize in innovative thinking and creativity to develop high-tech projects (June 21).
- Army Labs Day, when scientists and engineers from eight Army research and development centers will conduct interactive sessions with students that are designed to teach the applications of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and demonstrate the range of high-tech work within the Army (June 22).
- A National Showcase will spotlight the finalist teams and their eCYBERMISSION projects, and features appearances by senior Army leaders (June 23).
- The Awards Banquet, attended by Army leaders and VIP guests, during which the national winning team in each grade will be announced (June 24).

2011 finalists are:

- Sixth Grade:
 - “Team Genius;” West Woods Elementary; Hamden, Conn.
 - “Team Charger 7;” Providence Day School; Charlotte, N.C.
 - “The Rescuers;” Fern Ridge Middle School; Veneta, Ore.
 - “snickerdoodles;” Lawton Academy of Arts and Sciences; Lawton, Okla.
- Seventh Grade:
 - “The Deicers;” Learning Without Limits community group; Iowa City, Iowa
 - “JUNIOR WIN TEAM;” Westerly Innovations Network; Westerly, R.I.
 - “Lack of Oxygen;” Lawton Chiles Middle Academy; Lakeland, Fla.
 - “Surf City Smartbikes;” Mesa View Middle School; Huntington Beach, Calif.
- Eighth Grade:
 - “DR.MED;” NEISD STEM Academy; San Antonio, Texas
 - “SonicSoundScientists;” Saint Dominic Elementary School; Brick, N.J.
 - “Team Charger 4;” Providence Day School; Charlotte, N.C.
 - “The POD People;” Fern Ridge Middle School; Veneta, Ore.
- Ninth Grade:
 - “Buzz Busters;” Learning Without Limits community group; Iowa City, Iowa
 - “HUGE;” Roslyn High School; Roslyn Heights, N.Y
 - “Team Charger 5;” Providence Day School; Charlotte, N.C.
 - “Sleepy Heads;” Byng Junior High School; Ada, Okla.

About eCYBERMISSION

eCYBERMISSION is a free, web-based, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competition for students in grades six through nine. Sponsored by the U.S. Army and managed by RDECOM, eCYBERMISSION is designed to share the importance of STEM education with the leaders of tomorrow and encourage them to understand the real-life applications of these subjects. Students compete for state and national awards by working in teams to identify a problem in their community and using scientific inquiry to propose a solution. eCYBERMISSION is an Army Educational Outreach Program (www.usaeop.com).

About RDECOM

RDECOM is the Army's primary source for integrated research, development and engineering capabilities that empower, unburden and protect the Warfighter to enable the dominance of the Army. RDECOM provides the full spectrum of basic research, development, engineering and analysis of Warfighter systems, from concept to capability. RDECOM is headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., with laboratories and research and development centers throughout the country and representatives throughout the world. For more information on RDECOM, visit www.army.mil/rdecom.

For more information, please visit www.ecybermission.com or contact eCYBERMISSION Mission Control at 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or via e-mail at missioncontrol@ecybermission.com.

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