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## **Students Win \$8,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds for ARMY'S National Science Math and Technology Competition**

**Tuesday, October 06, 2009**

eCYBERMISSION recently awarded 15 students from four schools across the country \$8,000 each in U.S. EE Savings Bonds at the National Judging & Educational Event in Washington, D.C. for 2008-2009 competition year.

eCYBERMISSION is a free, web-based, science, math and technology competition that gives students in grades six through nine the opportunity to work together in a team to solve a problem in their community, while using the scientific method. The competition addresses the growing need for student interest and participation in science, technology, engineer and mathematics (STEM).

“We are extremely proud of our national winning teams. The students applied their knowledge of science, math and technology in ways that provided a clear benefit to their communities,” said Michael Lombardi, Research, Development, Engineering Command Program Manager for eCYBERMISSION. “eCYBERMISSION introduces students to the application of these subjects in a fun and interesting way. The Army hopes to encourage more students to take an interest in STEM education, as skills in these areas are vital to our nation’s security and defense.”

The 2008-2009 winning teams used science, math and technology to:

- **Protect Kids on Halloween:** Three sixth-grade students from Charlotte Latin School in Charlotte, N.C. formed the “Dragonface” team which set out to discover a solution designed to make children’s Halloween costumes more fire resistant. They continue to educate their community on the dangers of flammable costumes, which they hope will lead to further testing and prevention.
- **Save Communities from Harmful Floodwaters:** The seventh-grade “BabyBots” team from Stone Middle School in Melbourne, Fla., researched how various pollutants in flood and storm water affect living organisms. As a result of their experiment, the four students developed a home test kit and an educational program designed to raise awareness of these potential hazards.
- **Help Students with Disabilities Play Sports:** The “Super Sports Squad,” comprised of four students from Pin Oak Middle School’s eighth-grade class in Bellaire, Texas, worked with specialists to develop a physical education program designed to improve the motor skills of special needs children through the use of modified sports. Their program was so successful that they have since been asked to develop an instructional manual to help implement these programs into other school districts.

- **Increase Healthy Air Quality in the Community:** Four ninth-grade students from All Saints Regional Catholic School in Manahawkin, N.J.. formed the “Catch a Breath” team and set out to identify potentially harmful pollutants in the air in their city’s public buildings, and discovered high levels of carbon dioxide in their own school building. They developed a classroom CO2 monitor designed to recognize these harmful levels, and hope to patent the product and make available to all schools.

Registration for the U.S. Army’s eighth annual national eCYBERMISSION competition opened on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2009, at [www.ecybermission.com](http://www.ecybermission.com). Registration will remain open through Dec. 18, 2009.

Since the competition’s inception in 2002, the U.S. Army has awarded more than \$6.7 million in prize money, and over 58,000 students have participated.

### **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](http://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](http://www.army.mil/rdecom).

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

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