

President Obama to honor National eCYBERMISSION Finalists at White House Science Fair

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PRESIDENT OBAMA TO HONOR NATIONAL eCYBERMISSION FINALISTS AT WHITE HOUSE SCIENCE FAIR

Students to be honored in nation's capital as future leaders of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

WASHINGTON (Feb. 7, 2012) - President Barack Obama is set to honor top eCYBERMISSION students today at the White House Science Fair.

“Team Charger 4” from Providence Day School in Charlotte, N.C., and team “DR. MED” from the North East Independent School District STEM Academy in San Antonio, Texas, are presenting their award-winning projects at the second annual White House Science Fair.

The White House Science Fair is the second annual event designed honor future STEM leaders in the nation for innovation and their positive impact on their community.

Along with about 100 other middle and high school students from a broad range of STEM competitions across the country, “Team Charger 4” and team “DR. MED” will share their findings at the fair.

Emily Ashkin, Matthew Howard and Alexander Roupas, along with Team Advisor Barbara Morrow from “Team Charger 4,” received a regional 1st place award for eighth grade in the 2010-2011 eCYBERMISSION competition.

The team came away with \$3,000 in U.S. Series EE Savings Bonds per student for creating an inexpensive and easily accessible way to improve unsanitary water conditions in underdeveloped countries, testing a water purification system using the process of reverse osmosis. The team's results showed that their purification system filtered out large particles, reduced turbidity levels and increased to the pH level to a value closer to pure water. “Our team has been afforded wonderful opportunities through eCYBERMISSION,” said Team Advisor Barbara Morrow. “Attending the White House Science Fair will be an experience that will serve these students for the rest of their lives, no matter what career path they choose down the road.”

eCYBERMISSION judges recognized the DR. MED team for investigating the effects improper disposal of pharmaceutical chemicals has on Edwards Aquifer, a groundwater resource for San Antonio, and as a result, received a regional 1st place award for eighth grade in the 2010-2011

eCYBERMISSION Competition. The team also earned \$3,000 in U.S. Series EE Savings Bonds per student. Jocelyn Hernandez, Ricardo Rodriguez, Nathaly Salazar and Carlos Zapata, and “DR. MED” Team Advisor Sandra Geisbush make up the team.

“From earning money in savings bonds for college to attending President Obama’s White House Science Fair, my students have had so many incredible experiences because of eCYBERMISSION,” said Team Advisor Sandra Geisbush. “These once-in-a-lifetime opportunities have shown our team how important STEM really is to everyday life, both now and in the future.”

Similar to the president’s “Educate to Innovate” campaign launched in November 2009, eCYBERMISSION strives to enhance STEM education for America’s youth, with the ultimate goal of ensuring national security and prosperity in the future.

“STEM leadership is vital to the future success, safety and prosperity of our country,” said Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. “Along with President Obama, eCYBERMISSION is proud to support the educational development of these future STEM leaders and is very proud of our ‘Team Charger 4’ and team ‘DR. MED.’”

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

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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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