

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Now Why Didn't You Think of That?

If the future of tomorrow relies on the ability of the youth of today to solve problems we are in good shape based upon the young inventors that participated at the 2006 Invention Convention. Today 427 students in grades K-8 showcased their inventions at Veterans Memorial. With parents, teachers, school classmates and siblings cheering them on, student inventors came with the hope of convincing judges that their wild, wacky and wonderful ideas are worthy of recognition.

The program inspires students to create and problem solve while developing their inventions, and it awards individuals, teams and special category achievement through college scholarships.

Winners of the 2006 Invention Convention

Lorena Grundy is the grand prize Edison Award winner and recipient of \$10,000 to be invested in Ohio's College Advantage 529 Savings Plan from the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority. Lorena won for her *Sound Off*; a microwave signal device used in motor vehicles to turn off your speakers and turn on a warning light. This invention solves the problem of drivers not hearing emergency sirens. Lorena is a 5th grader from Indian Run Elementary in the Dublin City School District.

Grades K-2

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to Laura Jeggle from Tremont Elementary (Upper Arlington School District) for her invention *Teacher's Helper*; an invention that enables the teacher to show the book while she reads.

2nd place winner of a \$400 college scholarship goes to Peyton Ennis from Ervin Carlisle Elementary (Delaware School District) for his invention, *Razor on Wheels*; a razor on wheels that helps people shave with disabilities.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Joel Slaughter a home schooled student from Westerville for his invention *Cool Car Codes*; a communication system on the steering wheel that enables one to communicate with other drivers.

Grade 3

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to Darien Pepple and Andy Cox from Olde Sawmill Elementary (Dublin School District) for their invention *Wearometer*; a special thermometer that tells you the temperature and what to wear.

2nd place winner of a \$400 college scholarship goes to Nicholas Pavoni from Tremont Elementary (Upper Arlington) for his invention *Water on the Go*; a training pack for dog owners.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Rossa Rumora from Heritage Elementary School (Pickerington School District) for her invention *Dog Air Freshener*; keeps your dog smelling good!

Grade 4

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to Maya McCabe from Smith Elementary (Delaware City Schools) for her invention *Cleaner Cleats*; a device that keeps the mud off of sports cleats.

2nd place winner of a \$400 college scholarship goes to Jessica Simone from Madison Elementary (Groveport Madison School District) for her invention *Ready Set Go Placement*; a placemat that helps you set the table.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Gregory Fraley from Hilliard Horizon School (Hilliard City Schools) for his invention *Life Saver Laser*; a laser device that keeps the driver informed of the distance between cars.

Grade 5

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to Cricket Kowal and Zach Jaffe from Granby Elementary School (Worthington School District) for their invention *Maintainer Container*; a device that maintains the level of water in an aquarium.

2nd place winner of a \$400 college scholarship goes to Brandon Smith from Alpine Elementary (Columbus Public Schools) for his invention *Super Strainer*; Strains Canned food.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Nicholas Mitchell from Harmon Middle School (Pickerington School District) for his invention *The Melter*; invention that melts plastic recyclables down.

Grade 6

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to Chris Dachenhaus from Waggoner Road Middle School (Reynoldsburg School District) for his invention *Katch a Kernel*; container that separates the kernels from the popcorn.

2nd place winner of a \$400 college scholarship goes to Christopher Benson from Groveport Middle School (Groveport Madison) for his invention *Low Paper Alert*; light and alarm system that lets you know the toilet paper is running low.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Kyle Doughty from Hilltonia Middle School (Columbus Public School) for his invention *The Ultimate Fishing Bag*; all in one carrier for the fisherman in the family.

Grades 7-8

1st place winner of a \$500 college scholarship goes to David Baker, a home schooled student from Bexley for his invention, *Grunge Guard*; a plastic cover that fits over the TV remote control, helping to eliminate germs.

2nd place winner of \$400 college scholarship goes to Heather McKay from Liberty Union Middle School (Columbus Public Schools) for her invention, *Port-A-Rail*; portable rail that attaches to regular rails for youngsters.

3rd place winner of a \$300 college scholarship goes to Chris Bryan from Ridgeview Middle School (Columbus Public School) for his invention, *Spit Valve Catch*; a device that attaches to a musical instruments spit valve and catches it for sanitary and safe removal later.

Chairmen's Choice Award

Matt Cassell from Park Street Intermediate (Southwestern School District) for his invention *The One Stop Tea Shop*; an all in one tea bag for those who like all the extras.

GIWITOT (Gee, I Wish I'd Thought of That!) Award

Max Killup from Dominion Middle School (Columbus City School) for his invention *The No More Soggy Cereal Bowl*; a device that drains some of the milk into a lower chamber in your cereal bowl.

Kids Choice Award

Maggie Brannam from Old Sawmill Elementary School (Dublin School District) For her invention, *Stick to the Game*; sticks game pieces to the game board.

The Invention Convention is a program offered free to school districts in the area through the contributions of its presenting sponsors; Grange Insurance, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Battelle, and ThisWeek Community Newspapers. Supporting sponsors include Cardinal Health, Donatos, Huntington Bank, The J.E. Grote Company, Honda of America, Limited Brands, The Columbus Dispatch and Wolfe Associates.

Companies, local organizations and individuals interested in supporting this program for children in their area may obtain more information by calling Toll Free 1-866-587-8446 or logging onto The Invention Convention's web site at www.just-think-inc.com

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Photos of the 2006 Central Ohio Invention Convention award winners may be downloaded off the Convention Web site at www.just-think-inc.com/media.