

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Local Students Win Science Fair Awards at 40<sup>th</sup> Space Congress**

Area high school and middle school students recognized for outstanding achievement

**PORT CANAVERAL, FL** – Brevard County high school and middle school students were honored last night at the 40<sup>th</sup> Space Congress Regional Youth Science Fair award presentation at the Radisson Resort at the Port. Awards were given to the top three science projects in the following categories: Junior Biological, Senior Biological, Junior Physical, and Senior Physical. Awards were also given to the top junior and senior team.

Local students who have won first place in their regional science fair are invited to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> Space Congress Regional Youth Science Fair. Science fair judges evaluate the demonstrations and together decide which projects represent the highest level of scientific critical thinking. The displays were open to the public Tuesday, April 29, 2003 through Thursday, May 1, 2003 at the 40<sup>th</sup> Space Congress exhibit hall.

“These are the best of the best of Brevard County, and it’s a shame we can only give 3 awards,” said Ginger Davis, district science resource teacher for secondary programs for Brevard Public Schools. “Winning an award at Space Congress is quite an honor for the students as the judging is very competitive. The Space Congress Science Fair is very well respected and considered to be one of the premier science fairs in the state.”

In addition, the George Faenza Outstanding Science Research Teacher Award was presented to Michael O’Donnell of Palm Bay High School. This award is presented annually to a teacher in Brevard County who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in science research and who exhibits high standards in science education.

This year’s science fair winners include:

#### Junior Biological

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Frank Page, Ascension Catholic School

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kyla Horn, McNair Magnet Middle School

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Daniel Kemp, Central Middle School

#### Senior Biological

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Julie Clift, Satellite High School

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Justin Trotter, Bayside High School

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jessica Greer, Palm Bay High School

#### Junior Physical

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Elizabeth LaManna, Ascension Catholic School

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Marcus Cunningham, St. Teresa’s Catholic School

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Steve McCommon, Jefferson Middle School

#### Senior Physical

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jessica Caesar, Rocklege High School

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bhavin Patel, Astronaut High School

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Nick Carson, Bayside High School

Junior Team

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Collin Lawton and Lauren Inbornone, Hoover Middle School

Senior Team

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Bradley Merrill and Andrew Tom, Palm Bay High School

The Space Congress Committee rewarded these students with savings bonds: \$500 for first place winners, \$200 for second place winners and \$100 for third place winners.

### **About Space Congress**

The Canaveral Council of Technical Societies (CCTS) created Space Congress in 1962 to stimulate interest and promote professionalism in the space program. Space Congress is organized in cooperation with NASA, the Department of Defense, industry and academia. The annual event provides a forum for space professionals to meet and share their knowledge of technical areas and issues facing the space program. CCTS uses Space Congress proceeds to present annual achievement and technical awards, conduct an annual Career Night to expose local students to scientific, engineering and related careers, and to sponsor or support many local educational programs offered by schools and groups in the Space Coast area. For more information visit [www.spacecongress.org](http://www.spacecongress.org) or call 321-868-1623.