



Believe in Ohio

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEM & Entrepreneurship Scholars earned \$41,000 in Scholarships during an online Believe in Ohio – Qualifying Competition

Dublin, Ohio – Funded by the State of Ohio through the Department of Higher Education and operated as a program of **The Ohio Academy of Science**, **Believe in Ohio** is a STEM and entrepreneurship program that teaches students how to commercialize products and services and create business plans that are driven by innovation.

Recently, students from 17 high schools throughout Ohio competed in the second of two Qualifying Competitions for the opportunity to advance to the 2022 Believe in Ohio State Competition. Student projects are developed and then evaluated either as a STEM Commercialization Plan or a STEM Business Plan. The Believe in Ohio State Competition will take place at the beginning of July. Students at the state competition will compete for up to \$375,000 in total scholarship awards.

“STEM is the driver for innovation and when combined with entrepreneurship, it becomes a powerful force that drives the creation for new products and services, and builds new industries”, said Michael E. Woytek, Executive Director for The Ohio Academy of Science. Woytek went on to add, “these students are the future professionals needed to propel Ohio’s innovation economy”.

Each of the students advancing from the Qualifying Competition will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to attend any Ohio college, university, or technical college and the opportunity to compete for a \$5,000 or \$10,000 scholarship (per plan) at the State Competition.

Believe in Ohio is a free, comprehensive, curriculum-based, STEM and entrepreneurship program for Ohio high school students. The program is designed to create a “Culture of Innovation” and to prepare students to meet the demands of a rapidly changing labor market and become contributors to Ohio’s innovation economy. Believe in Ohio is a program of [The Ohio Academy of Science](#) and was collaboratively developed with [Entrepreneurial Engagement Ohio](#). For more information about Believe in Ohio, please visit www.believeinohio.org.

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The Believe in Ohio Qualifying Competition Scholars include:

Anna High School - Anna

- Madison Victoria Jeffries, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *The Food Oasis*
- Carly Lynn Koverman, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *SleepRate App*

Bio-Med Science Academy STEM School - Rootstown

- Logan Christopher Cook, 10 - Individual
Plan Title: *VSBS - Variable Size Box Stacking*

Brecksville-Broadview Hts HS- Broadview Hts

- Nathan Lee Arens, 11 - Individual
Plan Title: *Swing by Targy*
- Grace Frances Dachtler, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *Infrared Skin Care*
- McKenna Marie Mack, 11 - Individual
Plan Title: *X-Perience the Workplace*
- Lucas Anthony Torres, 11 - Individual
Plan Title: *SoundCube: Your Desktop Recording Studio*
- Audrey Elise Bird, 11 – Team
- Emma Maureen Caputo, 11
Plan Title: *The AirBoot: Ski on Air*
- Fiona Kumar, 11 – Team
- James David Patrick, 11
Plan Title: *Wrapped*
- Jacob Douglas Roberts, 11 – Team
- Kai James Sustersic, 11
- Joshua Lewis Ackerman, 11
Plan Title: *H.A.R.P. Glasses*

Canfield High School - Canfield

- Jocelyn Jin Zhao, 11 - Individual
Plan Title: *New Tortilla Shape Allows For Greater Burrito Filling Capacity*

North Canton Hoover High School - North Canton

- Ryan Michael Pedone, 9 - Individual
Plan Title: *Cell Phob*

Notre-Dame Cathedral Latin School - Chardon

- Jasmine Marie Abounader, 12 – Team
- Zoey Maria Daher, 12
- Lia Alicia Kimball, 12
Plan Title: *The Hydration Guard*
- Nathan Lewis Galante, 12 – Team
- Eric John Remchick, 12
- Alex Jeffrey Simerale, 12
Plan Title: *Shoe-Port*

Notre-Dame Cathedral Latin School – Chardon (con't.)

- Julia Frances Jaworski, 11 – Team
- Sophia Elizabeth Rowan, 11
- Madison Sameera Thomas, 11
Plan Title: *Go Green Composting Machine*
- Frank Leo Kroto, 11 – Team
- Joe William Stolarik, 11
- Noah Patrick Weber, 10
Plan Title: *BioTech Lure Company*

Olmsted Falls High School - Olmsted

- Aidan James Ciehanoski, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *Health As A Whole*
- Jayden Jeffrey Kleinman, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *Wellness Walker*
- Jack Edson Shelnutt, 10 - Individual
Plan Title: *ProSoil*

Rutherford B. Hayes High School - Delaware

- Adam Clay Fronduti, 11 - Individual
Plan Title: *JazzAssist: a Fusion of a Cultural Artform and Technology*

Valley Forge HS - Parma Heights

- Alejandro Agosto, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *Poseidon Car-Side Express*
- Kaylee Rauch, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *Training Track*

VanWert HS - Van Wert

- Natalie Renee Benner, 12 – Team
- Ian Michael Rex, 12
Plan Title: *Improved Shopping Wheel Caster*
- Keigen Lynn Thomas Martz, 12 - Team
- Hunter Isaac Martz, 12
Plan Title: *New Spike Design for Cross-Country Shoes*
- Joshua Paul Reichert, 12 – Team
- Robert William Spath, 12
Plan Title: *Binder Ring Correction*

West Geauga High School - Chesterland

- Amy Marie Johnson, 12 - Individual
Plan Title: *AUDITION Recording Studio*

END