



Believe in Ohio

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEM & Entrepreneurship Scholars earned \$31,000 in Scholarships During an Online Believe in Ohio – Regional 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 28 high schools throughout Ohio competed in the first of two Regional Competitions for the opportunity to advance to the 2021 Believe in Ohio State Competition. Student projects are developed and then evaluated either as a STEM Commercialization Plan or a STEM Business Plan. The next Regional Competition will be held in May and the Believe in Ohio State Competition will take place in June where they will compete for \$250,000 in total scholarship awards.

“STEM and entrepreneurship are a powerful combination that can be used to innovate commercialized solutions to problems and the template for building new business opportunities”, 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 Regional Competition will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to attend any Ohio college, university, or technical college and the opportunity to compete for a \$10,000 scholarship 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.

The Believe in Ohio Regional Competition Scholars include:

School Name and City	Type of Plan	Student Name(s) and Grade(s)
Akron STEM and Buchtel High Schools - Akron Plan Title: <i>Development of a neural network, QSAR, and acid-treated water-soluble chitosan microneedle for the synthetization of molecular structures in the creation of a novel antibiotic to treat antibiotic resistant pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	Individual	Darelle Alan Thornton, 9
Anna High School - Anna Plan Title: <i>Benefits of Pickle Juice</i>	Individual	Alexis Nichole Shannon, 12
Blanchester High School - Blanchester Plan Title: <i>Bone Regenerative Injection</i>	Individual	Carter Anthony Stevens, 12
Blanchester High School - Blanchester Plan Title: <i>Eco-friendly Dandelion Latex</i>	Individual	Lana Roy, 12
Carroll High School - Dayton Plan Title: <i>LED Pacing System for Runners</i>	Individual	Kevin Samuel Agnew, 12
Columbus Academy - Gahanna Plan Title: <i>S.E.N.S.E: A Multipurpose Robotic Glove Designed to Teach Sign Language through Guided Manual Motions</i>	TEAM	Soham Joshi, 11 & Raaghav Malik, 11
Hilliard Darby High School - Hilliard Plan Title: <i>Bio Inspired & Smart Blade Designs for more Efficient and Resilient Small Wind Turbines</i>	Individual	Anas Muhammad Mereb, 9
Jackson High School - Massillon Plan Title: <i>Creating an Alcohol-Free, Essential Oil-Based Sanitizer for Better Hand Hygiene</i>	Individual	Snehal Choudhury, 11
Lutheran West School - Rocky River Plan Title: <i>Citrus Clothing Company</i>	Individual	Acacia Allison Uechi, 12
Milton Union High School - West Milton Plan Title: <i>SwingMax</i>	Individual	Alyssa Layne Smith, 11
Milton Union High School - West Milton Plan Title: <i>The Bottle-Attachment with Suction Equipment (BASE), a Universal Non-Tipping Cup Holder to Keep Bottles Upright</i>	Individual	Madison Elizabeth-Ming Stasiak, 11
Minford High School - Minford Plan Title: <i>Hooked On The Environment: A More Environmental Fish Hook</i>	Individual	Barrett Van Sickle, 10

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School Name and City	Type of Plan	Student Name(s) and Grade(s)
Notre-Dame Cathedral Latin School - Chardon	TEAM	Zach DeRespiris, 12 & Evan Fonash, 12 & Mario Misiti, 12
Plan Title: <i>Aerobic Success Enhancement Mask (ASEM)</i>		
Notre-Dame Cathedral Latin School - Chardon	TEAM	Gabrielle Lynch, 11 & Addison Schermer, 11 & Rylee Yackin, 11
Plan Title: <i>Anti-Fog Swimming Goggles</i>		
Rutherford B Hayes High School - Delaware	TEAM	Caylee Bree Combs, 12 & Brynn Eleanora McGrail, 12
Plan Title: <i>Creating a Sustainable Cycle with a Duckweed-Based Fertilizer</i>		
The Bounty Collegium - Sylvania	Individual	Rayanne Insan Mustapha, 11
Plan Title: <i>Novel Solutions to Increase Protection in Contact Sports - Velos Shin Guard Wrap</i>		
The University School - Chagrin Falls	Individual	Vincent Chen, 12
Plan Title: <i>Using Blockchain to Streamline the College Application Process</i>		
Upper Arlington High School - Upper Arlington	Individual	Mihai Crisan, 11
Plan Title: <i>Development of a photonic integrated circuit (PIC) that outperforms current ubiquitous integrated circuits</i>		
Upper Arlington High School - Upper Arlington	Individual	Benjamin Maximus Son, 10
Plan Title: <i>Receiver Protector</i>		
West Geauga High School - Chesterland	Individual	Bryn Patterson Morgan, 10
Plan Title: <i>Improved Spatial Positioning System Pt. 2</i>		
Westlake High School - Westlake	TEAM	Grace Baker, 9 & Isabella Rossi, 12
Plan Title: <i>Blue Light Blockerz</i>		
Westlake High School - Westlake	Individual	Jacob Mathew Rintamaki, 11
Plan Title: <i>The Transformable Tent: A Novel Design to Aid Humanitarian Relief Efforts</i>		
Westlake High School - Westlake	Individual	Michelle Khoury, 12
Plan Title: <i>Water Weighers</i>		
William Mason High School - Mason	Individual	Laalitya Acharya, 12
Plan Title: <i>Nereid: A Cohesive AINDIVIDUALProcessing Device to Detect Microbial-Contamination in Water</i>		
William Mason High School - Mason	Individual	Emir Tali, 10
Plan Title: <i>Portable Solar Tracker</i>		

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