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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Top 15 teams to present projects April 21 at SVSU
in fifth annual A.H. Nickless Innovation Award competition**
Students from six schools to compete for up to \$77,500 in scholarships, grants

UNIVERSITY CENTER, MICH., April 4, 2018 – Following months of research, the Top 15 teams in the 2017-18 [A.H. Nickless Innovation Award](#) competition will soon take the stage at Saginaw Valley State University to present their projects. At stake is a share of up to \$77,500 in college scholarships for students and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education grants for schools.

The competition will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 21 in Alan W. Ott Auditorium in SVSU's Gilbertson Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

After an initial application and judging phase in September and October, the field was narrowed in November, with the teams moving on to Phase Two of the competition receiving \$1,000 grants with which to pursue their research. Teams will now present their final projects before a panel of judges.

Schools with teams presenting their research on April 21 are:

- **Bullock Creek High School**, Midland, three teams
- **Freeland High School**, two teams
- **Herbert Henry Dow High School**, Midland, three teams
- **Midland High School**, three teams
- **Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy**, one team
- **Saginaw Career Complex**, three teams

The award, presented by the Nickless Family Charitable Foundation, is an annual competition for high school students ages 13 to 18 in Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties. Its goal is to inspire passion for STEM subjects and challenge students to work in teams to think innovatively and develop solutions to problems impacting the world in areas such as alternative energy, health care, science, technology and life sciences.



First place receives up to five **\$5,000 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$20,000 STEM education grant** for the school; **second place** receives up to five **\$2,500 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$10,000 STEM education grant** for the school; and **third place** receives up to five **\$1,000 scholarships** for student team members and a **\$5,000 STEM education grant** for the school.

In the competition's first four years, the scholarships and grants awarded totaled approximately \$290,000.

About the A.H. Nickless Innovation Award

The A.H. Nickless Innovation Award was created by the Nickless Family Charitable Foundation to honor the memory of the late Arthur H. Nickless, a local innovator and owner of Wolverine Telephone Company. With a goal of inspiring passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), the competition is open to high school students in Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties and awards up to \$77,500 per year in scholarships to students and STEM grants to schools. For more information, visit ahninnovationaward.com or facebook.com/AHNicklessInnovationAward.