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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Top 16 teams to present projects April 6 at SVSU in sixth annual A.H. Nickless Innovation Award competition

Students from seven local schools to compete for a share of up to \$77,500 in scholarships, grants

UNIVERSITY CENTER, MICH., March 20, 2019 – Following months of research, the Top 16 teams in the 2018-19 [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 6 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 6 are:

- **Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center**, Bay City, one team
- **Bullock Creek High School**, Midland, two teams
- **Freeland High School**, three teams
- **Herbert Henry Dow High School**, Midland, two teams
- **Midland High School**, five teams
- **Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy**, two teams
- **Saginaw Career Complex**, one team

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 five years, the scholarships and grants awarded totaled approximately \$362,000.

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.