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NATIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY FOUNDATION AWARDS CASH PRIZES TO LOCAL STUDENTS, SCHOOLS WHO PARTICIPATED IN WORK ZONE POSTER CONTEST

Fredericksburg, Va. – Six students from Hawaii, Minnesota, Missouri and Illinois were recently selected as winners of the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) Foundation's national poster contest that challenges children across the nation to creatively draw their depictions of roadway work zones. Their respective schools also received matching cash awards.

The nationwide poster contest program – “*Life Behind the Cones and Barrels: How Roadway Workers Keep America Moving*” – was created by the ATSSA Foundation to help raise public awareness of the dangers that workers experience daily in roadway work zones across the country. Annually, over 1,100 fatalities occur in these work zones. The number of roadway work zones has increased significantly over the past several years due to necessary safety improvements, upgrades and completely new roadway design across much of America.

“The contest was created to begin the safety awareness process early in these young student's lives,” said Foundation President Dane Alsbrook. “ATSSA has promoted work zone safety to the motoring public for close to 40 years now, and we feel it's never too early to begin safety awareness in this area. America's youth is a great place to start this type of safety campaign.” Students who participated in the contest were asked to recognize the reasons road work must be done, the types of jobs performed by roadway workers, and the “community responsibility” to ensure the safety of those workers.

Winners: In grades K-3, the winners were Marina Tschida from St. Paul, Minn. (First Place, 3rd grade, \$300), Mary Grant from St. Paul, Minn. (Second Place, 3rd grade, \$100) and Charlee Jones from Peoria, Ill. (Third Place, 3rd grade, \$50).

In grades 4-6, the winners were Nichlaus Schwartz from Peoria, Ill. (First Place, 6th grade, \$300), Precious Guillermo from Honolulu, Hawaii (Second Place, 6th grade, \$100) and Christina Han from Creve Coeur, Mo. (Third Place, 6th grade, \$50).

Local Schools: In addition to the student's prizes, the Foundation awarded Holy Spirit School in St. Paul, Minn. with \$300 and \$100 matching prizes; Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Peoria, Ill. with \$50 and \$300 matching prizes; Kalakaua Middle School in Honolulu, Hawaii with a \$100 matching prize; and Parkway Northeast Middle School in Creve Coeur, Mo. with a \$50 matching prize.

Hundreds of posters were judged at ATSSA's headquarters in Fredericksburg, Va. by a team of roadway safety experts. The winning posters are located at the “Foundation” link of ATSSA.com.

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