# For Immediate Release



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## Winners of State Invention Convention Announced

Chosen from 460+ students representing 57 districts from throughout the state at the 26th Ohio Invention Convention



**August 1, 2019** -- **Columbus, Ohio** -- Over 460 Kindergarten through 8th grade students from throughout Ohio were recently recognized at the 26th Invention Convention Competition, a competition for students to display their problem-solving and critical-thinking skills through products they have invented. The annual event is backed by major technology sponsors including title Supporting Partner, Honda of America Mfg., Inc.

This event, which took place at the Ohio State Fair on July 28, hosted over 450 students from 57 school districts around the state as they demonstrated and pitched their invention solutions to a problem they identified, ranging from innovations across multiple categories and covering everything from health and safety to pet and household improvements that can positively affect the lives of thousands. The young inventors were judged for honors on their innovative approaches to solving a problem through invention as well as their prospects for creating viable enterprises in industry innovation.

\$ 21,000 in College Savings Awards from Ohio Tuition Trust Authority, Ohio's 529 Plan, were awarded, including Best of Show Edison Awards in the two grade divisions with each receiving \$2,500. Industry Innovators were awarded \$400, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each grade division receiving savings awards as well. All state award earning inventors have the opportunity to register for the 2020 Invention Convention U.S. Nationals at The Henry Ford.

- Edison Award, grades K 4, sponsored by OTTA CollegeAdvantage: Samrithy Balaji from **Dublin** for "Spec X Finder"
- Edison Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by OTTA CollegeAdvantage: 5th grader Eston Radic from Columbus for "3Deez!"
- Kids Choice Award: 4th grader Anuki Liyanage from Hilliard for "The Futuristic Fuel For Cars"
- Next Level Award, presented by Inventors Launchpad: 4th grader Berkeley Wallace from Delaware for "The Cool Kids"
- 1st Place Grade 1: Vera Wilder from Delaware for "The Toothbrush Brush"
- 2nd Place Grade 1: Patrick Leitch, Jr. from Dublin for "The Plantr"
- 3rd Place Grade 1: Cody Stroupe from Delaware for "C-Sorter"

- 1st Place Grade 2: Rylie Brewer from Grafton for "Ultimate Media and Snack Caddy"
- 2nd Place Grade 2: Cole Richmond from Grafton for "The Thumbtackular"
- 3rd Place Grade 2: Emily Webb from Clarksville for "Trash Keeper"
- 1st Place Grade 3: Jude Haller and Brandon Dishauzi from Wadsworth for "Water Brush"
- 2nd Place Grade 3: Elijah Lape from Ashville for "Play Box"
- 3rd Place Grade 3: Katie Hays and Claire King from Columbus for "The Chore Watch"
- 1st Place Grade 4: Elliana Newman from Medina for "Ice Dam Be Gone"
- 2nd Place Grade 4: Megan Kleiner from Cincinnati for "Zipper Zoomer"
- 3rd Place Grade 4: Kellen Van Sickle from Cincinnati for "The Wobble Chair Stand"
- 1st Place 5th Grade: Jeanie DeSantis and Amelia Lang from Columbus for "Touitle"
- 2nd Place 5th Grade: Claire Rhodes from Columbus for "Port-a-Bump
- 3rd Place 5th Grade: Ella Plickert and Reese Ralston from Columbus for "Tight Tie"
- 1st Place 6th Grade: Cecilija Dautovic from Euclid for "Beach Blaster"
- 2nd Place 6th Grade: Amelia Bard and Ella Bard from Wadsworth for "The Recycle Buddy"
- 3rd Place 6th Grade: Estelle Geis-Moffitt from Columbus for "The Relaxed Reader"
- 1st Place 7th Grade: Andrew Nguyen and Mason Lewis from Rootstown for "Spoon-Stick"
- 2nd Place 7th Grade: James Knudson from Columbus for "Eve Peace"
- 3rd Place 7th Grade: Kadence Papantonakis from Rootstown for "Wig Washer"
- 1st Place 8th Grade: Ella Mefford from Wilmington for "Tree-LESS Paper Towels"
- 2nd Place 8th Grade: Zoe Mattox from Columbus for "Kata-Vex veterinary blood draw needle"
- 3rd Place 8th Grade: Luke Bradshaw from Columbus for "mp3 player Headphones"
- Transportation Award, grades K 4, sponsored by HONDA: 4th grade Parnitha Karapakula from **Delaware County** for "Snow Sensor windshield cover"
- Transportation Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by HONDA: 6th grader Nicolai Nagy from East Cleveland for "The Climb-Baby Stroller"
- Technology and Wearables Award, grades K 4: 3rd graders Claire King and Katie Hays from Columbus for "The Chore Watch"
- Technology and Wearables Award, grades 5 8: 6th graders Kavya Balreddygari and Anavi Patil from East Cleveland for "Savvy Tracker"
- Sports, Games, Entertainment and Toys Award, grades K 4: 3rd grader Ella Bright from Delaware County for "Animal Sense-ory"
- Sports, Games, Entertainment and Toys Award, grades 5 8: 5th graders Quintin Colagrossi and Joe Manzione from Strongsville for "The Goalie's
- Household and Tools Award, grades K 4: 1st grader Grace Rhodes from Worthington for "Straw-Cycler"
- Household and Tools Award, grades 5 8: 5th grader Danny Mefford from Wilmington for "Ouick Click"
- Home Technology, Smart Homes and Appliances Award, grades K 4, sponsored by AT&T: 3rd grader Olivia Wapenaar from Wadsworth for "Bright
- Home Technology, Smart Homes and Appliances Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by AT&T: 5th grader Logan DeLong from West Alexandria for "Anael Life"
- Home Organization Award, grades K 4: 4th grader Madelyn Windholtz from Columbus for "Carttoman"
- Home Organization Award, grades 5 8: 5th graders Caleb Smith and Daniel Abouchahine from Columbus for "The Line, The Hitch and The Wardrobe"
- Health and Medical Technology Award, grades K 4: 3rd grader Josh Hanuscak from Delaware County for "Cleaner Hands"
- Health and Medical Technology Award, grades 5 8: 8th graders Joslynn Beneke and Jillian Overmyer from West Alexandria for "Love-Lens"
- Government and Public Safety Award, grades K 4, sponsored by CIPLA: 2nd grader Katharine Johnson from Columbus for "Hopeless 2 Happiness"
- Government and Public Safety Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by CIPLA: 7th grader Gabe Pollock-O'Dorisio from Bowling Green for "Flame Retardant Paint"
- Energy Efficiency, Environmental and Clean Technology Generation Award, grades K 4, sponsored by AEP: 3rd grader Denton Hyster from Grafton for "Trash chute"
- Energy Efficiency, Environmental and Clean Technology Generation Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by AEP: 6th graders Addie Leasure and Grace Coppess from North Dayton for "Eco-friendly Flower Food"
- Education, Technology Systems, Tools and Hardware Award, grades K 4, sponsored by EDUCATION PROJECTS: 3rd grader Diya Jhaveri from Delaware County for "All-in-one Magnetic Dry Eraser"
- Education, Technology Systems, Tools and Hardware Award, grades 5 8, sponsored by EDUCATION PROJECTS: 6th grader Kristina Ma from Worthington for "SociEmoti Game: Autistic Skills"
- Earth and Geosciences Award, grades K 4: 4th grader Samuel Mather from Cleveland for "Hot Air Kite"
- Earth and Geosciences Award, grades 5 8: 7th grader Michaela Holcomb from Blanchester for "Plastics in Baskets"
- Consumer Goods and Fashion Award, grades K 4: 4th grader Abigail Browne from Kettering for "Mag-O-Bag"
- Consumer Goods and Fashion Award, grades 5 8: 8th grader Jianna Nichols from Tipp City for "The Smart Accessory"
- Agriculture, Food Machinery Tools, Pets and Animal Care Award, grades K 4: 1st grader Sam Owsley from **Hilliard** for "Sam's Handy Handle Helper" Agriculture, Food Machinery Tools, Pets and Animal Care Award, grades 5 8: 5th grader Joslyn Balon from **East Clinton** for "1, 2, 3, Happy Hamster"

"Educators, employers and policymakers agree that the U.S. must grow innovative thinkers and problem solvers in order to create a sustainable future," said Invention League's Abby Fisher. "To make this dream a reality, we need competitions in youth invention and entrepreneurship to drive more programs into schools, and to excite and inspire students to invent new solutions to the world's problems."

Bobbie Jo Trittschuh, Honda's Community Relations Manager added, "The Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Competition provides a statewide setting for young inventors and entrepreneurs from across the state to compete and be recognized for advancements in problem identification, problem solving, invention and entrepreneurship skills—these skills are important for society and for employers like Honda as we continue to develop innovative products right here in Ohio."

"The 2019 Ohio State Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship event is supported by sponsors who realize the pressing need to add STEM-educated and invention-skilled youth to their respective workforces," added Fisher, "and who are dedicated to inspiring the next generation of scientists, engineers and financial professionals by sparking students' interests in STEM and STEAM, invention and innovation. It is critically important for humanity to help provide tomorrow's great minds with the skills needed to develop the future's next-generation technologies."

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The Invention Convention program, provided by the Invention League, is a free, STEAM-aligned educational program aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards, National Science Standards and is the only pathway for Ohio students to the National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Expo (NICEE). The Invention League is a 501c3 that, in addition to hosting the Invention Convention program, also provides Inventor Experiences and multiple continuing-education opportunities for educators. The Invention League, "Problem solving is our superpower!"

### **About Honda**

Honda's rich history in the state of Ohio began in September 1979 with the production of motorcycles in Marysville, Ohio. In November 1982, Honda became the first Japanese automaker to begin automobile production in the U.S. at its nearby Marysville Auto Plant. Construction of an engine plant in Anna, Ohio and a second Ohio auto plant located in East Liberty quickly followed these operations. A third automotive plant, the Performance Manufacturing Center in Marysville, Ohio, started the exclusive production of the Acura NSX in 2016, the only supercar designed, developed and manufactured in the U.S. Honda's Ohio operations employ more than 15,000 associates.

### **Additional Invention League Sponsors**

American Electric Power, AT&T, Bodi Law, LLC, CIPLA, Education Projects, Inventors Launchpad, Ohio Tuition Trust Authority Ohio's College Advantage 529 Plan, and Ohio State Fair.