

2025 National STEM Festival Sponsor Press Release

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EXPLR ANNOUNCES TOP STUDENT INNOVATORS NAMED NATIONAL STEM CHAMPIONS

106 students will receive expense-paid trips to the National STEM Festival in Washington, D.C., presented by EXPLR and supported by the Texas Channel Section of the International Society of Automation (ISA)

EXPLR was founded by <u>Jenny Buccos</u> and co-founded by <u>Kari Byron</u> (former Discovery Channel Mythbuster) and <u>Andrew Zimmern</u> (Bizarre Foods)

[NEW YORK, NY - December 18, 2024] - Today, EXPLR announces the names of 106 students whose outstanding performance in the National STEM Festival Challenge has earned them the title of National STEM Champion. These students will be recognized at the 2025 National STEM Festival in Washington, D.C., presented by EXPLR with support from ISA Texas Channel.

Each student and a guardian will receive an expense-paid trip, including travel and lodging, to attend the Festival and showcase their projects from March 19-22, 2025. In addition, each National STEM Champion will receive free access to EXPLR's educational streaming video and curriculum platform for the teacher of their choice.

The National STEM Festival invited students in grades 7-12 from across the U.S. and its territories to conceive and submit STEM innovations, inventions, and research across six categories: Aerospace Innovation, Environmental Stewardship, Future Food, Health and Medicine, Powering the Planet, and Tech for Good. A full list of National STEM Champions can be found here.

During the National STEM Festival, students will showcase their projects to top government and corporate leaders, as well as network with other exceptional students from around the country.

"Congratulations to all the students selected as National STEM Champions! EXPLR created the National STEM Festival to spotlight the next generation of innovators – students who are bold thinkers, dynamic leaders, and creators with the power to make a real impact. I'm incredibly excited to welcome our STEM Champions to the Festival this spring, where their ideas will inspire us all," said Jenny Buccos, Founder & CEO of EXPLR and Co-Director of the National STEM Festival.

In support of these incredibly talented students is **the Texas Channel Section (TCS) of the International Society of Automation (ISA)**, a sponsor of the national STEM Festival, supporting the organization's mission to guide the brightest minds towards careers in STEM and to take an active stand in tackling the world's most pressing challenges. "The ISA Texas Channel Section is honored to support the National STEM Festival and these brilliant young STEM Champions. And on a more personal note, serving as a judge, and witnessing their groundbreaking innovations and vision for the future is truly inspiring, underscoring the potential to shape a better world together," said **James Haw, TCS Scholarship Chair.**

ABOUT EXPLR

EXPLR's mission is to help kids thrive in school and life by providing real-world, rigorous, and relevant educational resources. EXPLR is a streaming video and curriculum service for grade 5-12 students, teachers, and families that helps bridge critical gaps in K-12 education. It was cofounded by leading education and entertainment figures Jenny Buccos (founder of ProjectExplorer) and Kari Byron (former Discovery Channel Mythbuster). Since launching in 2021, EXPLR has been used in over 500 schools across 23 US states.

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About ISA Texas Channel Section

The ISA Texas Channel Section exists as a geographical section of the International Society of Automation, which is the leading non-profit professional association founded to create a better world through automation. This global organization has more than 40,000 members worldwide and continues to grow daily.

Since its foundation in 1945, ISA has grown to 160 geographical sections, with the Texas Channel Section being one of the largest in the United States. Our section services the Texas Ship Channel and Bayport areas with members from some of the world's largest plants and biggest users of automation products.

We strive to advance technical competence by connecting the automation community to the right resources for achieving operational excellence. Our members enjoy premium access to technical knowledge and training, professional and networking events and ongoing career development.

The ISA Texas Channel Section exists not only to be a resource to those in automation but also to provide scholarships to our future industry leaders. ALL (100%) of our fundraising efforts are dedicated to affording the opportunity of education to as many students as possible each year.