

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Columbia Students Win Prizes in C-SPAN Video Documentary Competition

Students express how the federal government impacts their lives

WASHINGTON (March 16, 2022) – Today C-SPAN announced that students at Richland Northeast High School in Columbia, South Carolina, are winners in C-SPAN's national 2022 StudentCam competition. The following students have won prizes:

Alani Hamilton and Juliette Maxfield will receive $1,500 as second prize winners for the documentary, "Missing White Woman Syndrome," about inequalities in missing person cases. This documentary will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 3.

Deim Marion Gannaban, Emanya Roach and Christina Foster will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "Are You Still Watching?," about education funding disparities.

Brennan Davis, Mary Jayne Davis and Jessica Gonzalez will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "The Waiting Room," about immigration reform.

Kamea Hosendove, Mark Smith and Tyler Stodgehill will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "Medicaid and Minorities."

Zoe Becraft and Adella Burrell will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "Freeing the Cage Birds," about LGBTQ+ discrimination.

Han Nelson and Max Brabham will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "Barriers to Employment," about autism and unemployment.

Everett Joyner and Tyson Stodghill will receive $250 as honorable mention prize winners for the documentary, "The Gift That Never Gives," about SNAP and EBT Funding.

The competition, now in its 18th year, invited all middle and high school students to enter by producing a short documentary. C-SPAN, in cooperation with its cable television partners, asked students to explore a federal policy or program and address the theme: **"How does the federal government impact your life?"**

In response, more than 3,000 students across the country participated in the contest. C-SPAN received over 1,400 entries from 41 states, Washington, D.C., Morocco and South Korea. The most popular topics addressed were:

- Environment & Pollution (10%)
- Health Care & Mental Health (9%)
- COVID-19 & Recovery (7%)
- Immigration (5%)
- 2nd Amendment & Firearm Legislation (4%)

"This year we asked students to reflect on how a federal program or policy is relevant to their lives and communities," said Craig McAndrew, director of C-SPAN Education Relations. "The winners showcased exceptional research and production values as they wove personal stories with historical or contemporary issues. These middle and high school students far exceeded our expectations, and we are elated to share their hard work with the country."

C-SPAN is funded by America's cable television companies, who also support StudentCam. In Columbia, C-SPAN is available locally through Spectrum.

"Through C-SPAN's StudentCam competition, young adults can explore and draw attention to issues central to community growth, which aligns with Spectrum's focus to support and strengthen the towns and cities where we live and work," said Adam Falk, Senior Vice President, State Government Affairs for Charter Communications, which operates the Spectrum brand of Internet, TV, Mobile and Voice services. "We applaud these winning students on the creativity they have demonstrated in their outstanding documentaries."

More than 300 students from across the country are winning a total of $100,000. C-SPAN is awarding one grand prize, 4 first prizes, 16 second prizes, 32 third prizes and 97 honorable mention prizes. These winning videos will receive cash awards of $5,000, $3,000, $1,500, $750 and $250, respectively.

High school students competed on a regional level, with the United States divided into three regions: West, Central and East. Middle school students were judged on a national basis. The grand prize winner was selected nationally among all regions and grade levels.

The 150 winning videos can be viewed at www.studentcam.org and may be used in a broadcast with attribution to C-SPAN. To schedule an interview with one or more of the winning students, please contact Pam McGorry at pmcgorry@c-span.org.

The annual StudentCam competition is sponsored by the C-SPAN Education Foundation. Videos were evaluated by a panel of educators and C-SPAN representatives based on the thoughtful examination of the competition's theme, quality of expression, inclusion of varying sides of the documentary's topic, and effective incorporation of C-SPAN programming.

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About C-SPAN Classroom:
C-SPAN Classroom is the network's FREE membership service that works with C-SPAN's programs on public affairs, coverage of Congress, nonfiction books and American history to create free resources for teachers, students and the public to use in classrooms, projects or for research. C-SPAN Classroom's website provides social studies teachers with access to thousands of free resources, including short current events videos, Lesson Plans and Bell Ringers, plus Constitution Clips and On This Day in History events. The education team also hosts the biweekly C-SPAN in the Classroom Podcast, available on the C-SPAN Now app or wherever you listen to podcasts. Engage with C-SPAN Classroom on Twitter and Facebook.

About C-SPAN:
C-SPAN, the public affairs network providing Americans with unfiltered access to congressional proceedings, was created in 1979 as a public service by the cable television industry and is now funded through fees paid by cable and satellite

companies that provide C-SPAN programming. C-SPAN connects with millions of Americans through its three commercial-free TV networks, C-SPAN Radio, C-SPAN Podcasts, the C-SPAN Now app, C-SPAN.org and various social media platforms. C-SPAN's robust public affairs programming includes national and international public policy conversations; its popular morning show *Washington Journal*; book and author discussions on Book TV; a chronicle of America's past on American History TV; and more. The network's video-rich website contains over 270,000 hours of searchable and shareable content, archived since 1987 for educational and reporting purposes. Learn more about C-SPAN at www.c-span.org/about/faq/. Engage with C-SPAN on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, and stay connected through weekly and daily newsletters.

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