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Intel Science Talent Search Finalists Announced

40 Young Innovators Compete for More Than $500,000 in Scholarships

SANTA CLARA, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Forty high school seniors today were named Finalists for the Intel(R) Science Talent Search 2009, a program of the Society for Science & the Public. The competition is America's oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition. Finalists will travel to Washington, D.C. in March to compete for $530,000 in scholarships, with the top winner receiving a $100,000 scholarship from the Intel Foundation. Each Finalist will receive at least $5,000 in scholarships and a new laptop powered by an Intel(R) Core(TM)2 Duo processor.

This year's Intel Science Talent Search Finalists come from 17 states and represent 35 schools. As in recent years, New York has the most Finalists from any state, with nine, followed by California with five and New Jersey, Ohio and Wisconsin with three each.

The Intel Science Talent search encourages students to tackle challenging scientific questions and develop the skills necessary to solve the problems of tomorrow. The Finalists' independent research projects include topics such as human-seeking robots, revitalizing ecosystems affected by wildfires, implications of gender on stem cell transplants, climate change, and potential cures for Parkinson's disease and cancer.

Over the past 67 years, the young innovators chosen to participate in the Science Talent Search have gone on to receive some of the world's most prestigious honors. For example, seven former Finalists have won the Nobel Prize while others have been awarded the Fields Medal, the National Medal of Science and MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

The Finalists will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for a week-long event in March. While in Washington, D.C. Finalists will undergo a rigorous judging process, meet with national leaders, interact with leading scientists and display their research at the National Academy of Sciences. Top winners will be announced at a black-tie gala award ceremony at the Mellon Auditorium on March 10.

"These amazing young scientists are our country's greatest hope," said Craig Barrett, Intel chairman. "They represent the best of our education system and are a timely reminder that investing in the next generation of innovators is critical for the future of America."

Society for Science & the Public (SSP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the public engagement in scientific research and education, has owned and administered the Science Talent Search since its inception in 1942.

"Answering the call of critical challenges in medicine, technology and the environment, the 40 Finalists of the Intel STS 2009 are making real impact on our world through their

independent research--while serving as inspiration to the next generation of young researchers," said Elizabeth Marincola, president of SSP. "SSP joins with Intel in congratulating these outstanding young innovators and welcoming them into the prestigious fold of the Science Talent Search, now in its 68th year."

SSP and Intel are also today launching a nationwide search to find past alumni of the Science Talent Search and welcome past Semifinalists and Finalists to visit www.societyforscience.org/membership/signup.cfm for more details. Connecting past Science Talent Search alumni with current participants will create an inspiring community of mentors, peers and resources for future young scientists.

Intel believes that students everywhere deserve to have the skills necessary to become the next generation of innovators. As part of Intel's education outreach commitment, applications for the SSP Fellows Program are being accepted through Feb. 15 and can be accessed at www.societyforscience.org/outreach. The program provides funds and training to select U.S. science and math teachers to encourage more under-resourced students to produce high-quality, independent scientific research.

Intel's commitment to education extends far beyond Intel Science Talent Search. Over the past decade alone, the company has invested more than $1 billion, and its employees have donated more than 2 million hours toward improving education in 50 countries.

A full list of 2009 Finalists can be found at www.societyforscience.org. To view ongoing updates about the 2009 Intel Science Talent Search, join the Facebook* group at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=42362919370 and follow Twitter* updates at www.twitter.com/intelsts09.

To learn more about Intel's commitment to education around the world, visit www.intel.com/education. To join Intel's community of people inspired by education visit www.inspiredbyeducation.com. To learn more about Society for Science & the Public, visit www.societyforscience.org.

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