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For Immediate Release:



Garden City Middle School Student Named One of 10 National Young Scientists!

Garden City Middle School 7th grader, Austin Crouchley was recently selected as one of 10 America's Top Young Scientists in the 2017 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge!

As a national finalist, Austin will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with a 3M scientist during a summer mentorship program to develop an innovative idea that positively impacts his community or the global population. In addition, he will receive a tablet computer, \$1,000 cash, a contest medal and a trip to 3M Headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, to participate in the final competition at the 3M Innovation Center on Oct. 16th and 17th. Austin will compete with nine other national finalists in a series of challenges, including a presentation of each Young Scientist's completed innovation. Each challenge will be scored independently by a panel of judges. The winner will

receive \$25,000, a trip to watch the taping of a Discovery Network show, and the title of “America’s Top Young Scientist.”

According to the official finalist announcement from Discovery Education/3M, “Over the past ten years, the Young Scientist Challenge has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in student scholarships and prizes, paired students with world-renowned scientists to give them real-world insights and delivered much-needed science resources to millions of students, teachers and families across the country. Winners have gone on to be featured in Forbes magazine’s annual “30 Under 30” list, speak in front of members of Congress and attendees at the United Nations, meet the President of the United States, and demonstrate inventions on national news programs such as *ABC World News Tonight*, *Fox & Friends*, and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*.”

“Austin designed, built, and tested a single axis hydro-powered solar tracker that generated more electricity than a traditional fixed mounted solar module,” explained the district’s 6-12 science coordinator, Dr. Elena Cascio. Readers can learn more by accessing Austin’s winning video at: <https://www.youngscientistlab.com/challenge>. And learn about all the 2017 national finalists at:

https://www.youngscientistlab.com/competition/video_challenge/archives/2017?award=finalist