



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 11, 2022

Contact: Vickie Swanton  
(906) 282-6752

### ***Winners Announced for Thru the Trees Annual Video Contest***



Screen shot from first place video!

KENNEWICK, WA—"Thru the Trees" has announced the winners of its latest cycle of the popular video production competition for students, ages 14 to 18. The event challenged students from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to create a video highlighting the value and variety of careers in the forest products industry.

Participating industry organizations from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington joined together to develop the contest to promote and encourage students' consideration of careers in the forest products industry.

#### **Winners:**

- First Place – Team: Brecon Bates, Aaron Johnson, Jonah Johnson, Max Johnson, Tess Johnson, Sam Johnson, Josie Koeplin
  - [Bug's Eye View](#)
  - Victory Middle School, Meridian, Idaho
  - Awarded \$1100 (\$100 finalist, \$1000 for first place)
- Second Place - Team: Luca McMurrin and Emma Parker
  - [The Importance of Forestry](#)
  - Early College High School, Salem, Oregon
  - Awarded \$600 (\$100 finalist, \$500 second place)
- Third Place (Tie) – Anne Nevis
  - [Learning About Forestry](#)
  - Banks High School, Banks, Oregon
  - Awarded \$350 (\$100 finalist, \$250 third place)
- Third Place (Tie) – Patrick Wilcox
  - [Forestry Jobs](#)
  - Sweet Home High School, Sweet Home, Oregon
  - Awarded \$350 (\$100 finalist, \$250 third place)

The other finalists (\$100 awarded to each) included:

- Daisy Alatorre, Early College High School, Salem, Oregon
  - [Wildland Firefighters](#)
- Jessica Clough, Pleasant Hill School, Pleasant Hill, Oregon
  - [Surveyor Ghost Story](#)
- Team: Kiera Hollister and Hannah Erz, Central Linn High School, Halsey, Oregon
  - [Luminescent News](#)
- Halle Lowman, North Junior High, Boise, Idaho
  - [Jobs in the Forest Industry](#)
- Lotus Rivers, Corvallis High School, Corvallis, Oregon
  - [Forestry Careers: Wildland Firefighting](#)
- Ethan Schuster, Sweet Home High School, Sweet Home, Oregon
  - [Schuster Brothers Trucking](#)
- Team: Aiden Shamek and Carsen Perry, Sweet Home High School, Sweet Home, Oregon
  - [Thruthetrees: Forestry Engineer](#)
- Team: Kristan Stafford and Suzie Griffin, Sweet Home High School, Sweet Home, Oregon
  - [Forest Industry Careers](#)

Video entries were judged based on (1) how well the video highlighted a forestry career, (2) quality and accuracy of the content, (3) extent to which the video engages and inspires, (4) degree of ingenuity and creativity (5) the number of references used, and (6) overall quality of production, including visual and sound elements.

This year we also awarded two teacher incentives. Blake Manley with Sweet Home High School (Oregon) and Angela White with Pleasant Hill High School (Oregon) were both awarded \$500.00.

Sponsors for this contest cycle include:



For more information, visit <https://www.thruthetrees.org/>

###