

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### WHY VOTE? HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO CHALLENGE WINNERS!

**Lee County, FL:** On Monday, October 13, 2008 at 7:00pm, Sharon L. Harrington, Lee County Supervisor of Elections, announced the top four winners of the Why Vote? High School Video Challenge during a televised Awards Ceremony at the Lee County School Board. Lee County School Superintendent, Dr. James Browder, Challenge judges David Grey of Flame Productions and David Plazas of the News-Press, teacher Sharon Harrington and students from Lehigh Senior High School, teacher Eric Brounson and students from North Fort Myers High School, teacher Robert Derek Taylor and students from Riverdale High School, and teacher Gina Sabiston and students from South Fort Myers High School attended the ceremony.

Lehigh Senior High won 4<sup>th</sup> Place with teacher Sharon Harrington's 6<sup>th</sup> Period class video. Lehigh Senior High won 3<sup>rd</sup> Place with teacher Sharon Harrington's 7<sup>th</sup> period class video. North Fort Myers High School won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place with teacher Eric Brounson's class' video. South Fort Myers High School won 1<sup>st</sup> Place with teacher Gina Sabiston's class video. Cash Prizes were awarded to the winning schools in the amount of \$1,500 for 1<sup>st</sup> Place, \$750 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, \$500 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place and \$250 for 4<sup>th</sup> Place. Riverdale High School also submitted an entry.

Lehigh Senior High School's 4<sup>th</sup> Place students who participated in the Challenge were; Eric Cintra, Taylor Fleming, David Freire, Johnny Loudor, Wilfredo Montalvo, Nathan Pena, Iris Santiago, Tia Smart, Tiara Thomas and Yvenette Charles. Lehigh Senior High School's 3<sup>rd</sup> Place students who participated in the Challenge were; TJ Albertelli, Dawn Ard, Rebecca Barbosa, Andrew "Hayden" Bryant, Nicole Cook, Steven Galloway, Cristina Godinez, Raven Haywood, Enrique Hernandez, Amber Jackson, Richard Jones, William "Sharne" Maree, Eugene Nance, Breanna Nichols, Igor Popov, Joshua Quick, Jesus "JJ" Ramirez, Andrea Schmidt, and Jared Zaworski. Samson Van Olffen was the North Fort Myers High School 2<sup>nd</sup> Place video student who participated in the Challenge. South Fort Myers High School's 1<sup>st</sup> Place entry was submitted by student Jackson Trescott.

The panel of judges for the Challenge consisted of Supervisor of Elections, Sharon L. Harrington; CEO Firestone Cimring Advertising, Gary Firestone; President Flame Productions/Internet, David Grey;

Community Conversation Editor for the News-Press, David Plazas; and NBC-2 Reporter, Chad Oliver. Judges were asked to grade the videos based upon the strength of the message and its adherence to the topic as well as the creative level of the overall video.

The winning videos will be identified and featured on the Lee County Elections Office website ([www.leeelections.com](http://www.leeelections.com)), the News-Press' website ([www.news-press.com](http://www.news-press.com)) and the Lee County School District's website ([www.leeschools.net](http://www.leeschools.net)). Other entries will be aired and identified with their placements.

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