

2 area teens selected for international science fair

Mooresville, Charlotte students finish at top in statewide competition.

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Two teens from the Charlotte region were among eight chosen from North Carolina to compete in the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles in May.

Aakash Indurkha of Charlotte and Elizabeth Schroder of Mooresville, both students at the N.C. School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, were selected for the international competition during Saturday's N.C. science and engineering fair in Raleigh.

Elizabeth took first place in physics, optics and photonics for her project "Correlation between Peel Speed and Intensity of Triboluminescence in Adhesive Tape."

Aakash took second place in earth/environmental science for the project "Growth Analysis on the Optimizing Conditions for Growth Environments for Green Micro-Alga *Scenedesmus Dimorphus*."

Many students from the region took home state awards - and not all had such tongue-tangling titles.

Ashlyn Keziah of Queen's Grant Community School in Mint Hill took an earth/environmental science honorable mention for "Can Poo Save Trees?"

Other winners from the region were:

■ Grant Edwards of Charlotte's Edwards Christian Academy, second place in senior technology/engineering, Grand Genius

Olympiad and National Society of Professional Engineers Innovative Engineering awards.

■ Gabrielle Nortey of Gastonia (N.C. School of Science and Mathematics), Association of Women Geoscientists and N.C. American Water Works Association awards and senior earth/environmental science honorable mention.

■ Onyemaechi Nwanaji-Enwerem of Concord High, senior chemistry, honorable mention and U.S. Army award.

■ Hamza Butler of Charlotte Islamic Academy, senior physics honorable mention.

■ Sunny Potharaju and Justin Lang of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy in Charlotte, second place in junior technology/engineering and Broadcom Masters certificate.

■ Abigail Meredith of Huntersville (St. Mark Catholic School), junior chemistry honorable mention.

■ Gatlin Parrett of Charlotte's Tuckaseegee Elementary and Justin Sparks of Hickory's Childers Elementary, exemplary elementary project awards.

■ Tylar Morrison of Hickory (Hildebrand Elementary), elementary honorable mention.

■ Emery Tran and Alexander Macri of Barringer Elementary in Charlotte, young naturalist and young scientist awards.

■ Ashley Phykitt of Barringer Elementary, N.C. American Waterworks and young naturalist awards.

■ Robert Gourley and Jaehyeong Lee of Mooresville's Mount Mourne School, Yale Science and Engineering Association award.