



GLOBAL VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

2022/23 AWARD WINNING WEBSITES ANNOUNCED

May 1, 2023 – The Give Something Back International Foundation (GSBI) has announced the winners of the 2022/23 Global Virtual Classroom Contest (GVC) -- a free online collaborative learning project. The GVC Program fosters creativity, cross cultural understanding, and helping others. It also provides an opportunity for students to learn web design skills as well as safely and effectively use the resources found on the internet.

Sponsored by GSBI, the GVC program, now in its twentieth year, provides a unique opportunity for primary and secondary school students from different countries to work with and learn from each other. They collaboratively design a website on a topic of their choosing. A panel of judges evaluates the final work and determines the winners.

JoAnn Patrick-Ezzell, the Chair of the Give Something Back International Foundation, said, “Natural disasters and Covid continued to affect in some way many of our participating schools around the world. We are very grateful to the dedicated and talented teachers who demonstrated such flexibility and resilience to support and enable their students participation.”

This year the contest had participants from India, Russia, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United States. Their efforts were judged for content, presentation, collaboration, and a helping focus. The helping focus encourages students to “give back to others” as they demonstrate social,

environmental responsibility or support worthy causes.

Andrew Ezzell, the President of GSBI said "Once again, the students displayed amazing creativity and collaboration in exploring their selected topics. Beyond the impressive accomplishment of their website projects, we are very pleased that the students participated in a myriad of ways to give back to their schools, their communities, and to others around the world. They made a difference!"

In the Primary School Division, the students brought to life such diverse subjects ranging from an exploration of our Oceans; focusing on many facets of environmentalism; and providing helpful perspectives on embracing change.

This year's Grand Prize winner for the Primary School category is an "Ocean of Change" website created and built by students from St. Mark's Sr. Sec. Public School, Meera Bagh, New Delhi, India; Tainan Municipal Haidong Elementary School, Tainan, Taiwan; and Forest Park Middle School, Forest Park, Illinois. The team's site was compelling, and very informative. The originality demonstrated and the creativity displayed was impressive.

The Second Place winner in the Primary School category is the "Environmentalism" website created and built by students from the Leslie H. Walton Middle School, Charlottesville, Virginia; Etkin Kolej, Eskisehir, Turkey; and, Gymnasium No. 32, Kurgan Region, Russia.

A Special Merit Award for impactful "Helping Focus" is awarded to the DLDV Model School, Pitampura, New Delhi, India. The students contributed their time and talent to many impactful philanthropic projects.

The Secondary School Grand Prize winner is the website, "The Unfiltered Vision; #Remove the Disguise" It was created and built by students from St. Mark's Senior Secondary Public School, Janakpuri, New Delhi, India; Daija Senior High School, Taichung, Taiwan; and SLEV Private High School, Istanbul, Turkey. The team's site explores very important and relevant content. The team engaged in significant

collaboration in creating their site.

The Second Place winner for the Secondary School category is the “Unifying Communities website created and built by students from Wunshan Senior High School, Taiwan and DLDAV Model School, Pitampura, New Delhi, India.

The Third Place winner is the “Indigenous Tribes” website. It was created by students from the Leslie H. Walton Middle School, Charlottesville, Virginia and the St. Mark’s Sr. Sec Public School, Meera Bagh, New Selhi, India.

Certificates of participation are awarded to all students. Certificates are also presented to the schools of the winning teams. The winning primary and secondary teams receive \$1000. A GSBI scholarship/sponsorship to a needy, disadvantaged student will be given on behalf of each school on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place primary and secondary teams.

To view the winning websites visit www.VirtualClassroom.org.

The GVC International website design contest is made possible by the Give Something Back International (GSBI), a nonprofit educational foundation headquartered in Sarasota, Florida. The Foundation’s mission is to provide life changing, quality educational opportunities to children, young adults, and teachers around the world.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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