MATFORCE Announces Winners of 2016 Video Contest

Prescott Valley, Arizona

MATFORCE is pleased to announce the winners of its 2016 “Stand With Me, Be Drug Free” video contest. Area youth ages 11 to 18 were invited to let their voices be heard by creating an original short video that makes a positive statement about reducing drug and alcohol abuse.

First, second and third place winners were awarded in two categories: middle school and high school. First place winners in each category received $300, second place earned a $200 award and $100 was given to third place winners. Honorable mention winners received $25.

Merilee Fowler, MATFORCE Executive Director, said, “MATFORCE is so excited to have 27 powerful entries in the video contest. The students did a remarkable job expressing the harms and devastation of drug use. It is an honor to recognize the great work of the youth in Yavapai County.”

In the middle school category first place, was awarded to Trenton Gullikson of Mile High Middle School and Micah Peterson, homeschooled, who are both from Prescott. Second place was awarded to Emmanuel Chaidez and third place was awarded to Lesly Castillo, who are both from Glassford Hill Middle School in Prescott Valley.

In the high school category, first place was awarded to Cameron Bloniarz from Mingus Union High School in Cottonwood. Brett Loro, Ethan Westling and Zommy Zuhlke, who are also from Mingus Union, earned second place. Third place was awarded to Team Digital from Camp Verde High School, which includes: Lloyd Foreman, Sam Maynard, Brent Miller, Sam Swick, Nick Daniels, Robert Fafrowicz, Cody Fant, Enrique Garcia, Jeff Glass, Thomas Herrera, Madison Johnson, Gage Moya, Jahlin Smith, Sam Villalobos and Nick Westervelt.

Honorable mention winners include: Prescott High School PAL Club members Sidney Erdahl, Sydney Dicker, Maddison Pierce, Maddy Thein, Maddy Coury, Isaiah Kaitschuck, and Yahri Greene; Prescott Valley’s Glassford Hill Middle School students Maria Estrada, Lesly Castillo and Joanna Espinoza; Cottonwood’s Mingus Union High School students Breanna Page, Christina Rodriguez, Sarah Vance, Ean Ganem, Preston Chalmers, Andrew Hite, Elie Abi
Hanna, Christyana Fletcher, Stephany Bourne, Lilly Sanchez, Bailey Frank, Aubrey Boulet, Sierra Romero and Sonny DeCrosta.

Winning videos will be used by MATFORCE at community events and as public service announcements on TV and radio. The videos can be viewed online at matforce.org.

***