

# FAU'S HANNAH HERBST IS AMERICA'S TOP YOUNG SCIENTIST!



Hannah Herbst  
FAU University Schools



Hannah Herbst awarded first prize - title of America's Top Young Scientist and a \$25,000 award check.

Hannah Herbst is an FAU University School student who was chosen as one of ten national finalists in the 2015 Young Scientist Challenge. Her finalist presentation was recently held in Minnesota at 3M Headquarters where she took first prize - title of America's Top Young Scientist and a \$25,000 award check.

Hannah presented her Ocean Energy Probe which aims to provide a stable power source and fresh water to developing countries around the globe by using untapped energy from ocean currents. This innovation was inspired by Herbst's desire to help her 9-year-old pen pal living in Ethiopia who lacks a reliable source of power and electricity. The energy is stored in a generator, and then can be harnessed for many uses, including the desalinization of water. Hannah entered the Young Scientist Challenge because she wants to try to make her dream of global access to fresh water, by making her Ocean Energy Probe, a reality.

During the past three months, Herbst and the other nine finalists had the exclusive opportunity to work directly with a 3M scientist to develop their personal inventions as part of a unique summer mentorship program. Herbst was paired with Jeffrey Emslander, a 3M corporate scientist whose research and patents have helped 3M reduce emissions to the environment and use less energy in the making of products.

The Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge is the nation's



premier science competition for grades 5-8. Students submit a 1-2 minute video describing a new, innovative solution that could solve an everyday problem. Ten finalists were chosen from thousands of entries for their passion for science, spirit of innovation and ingenuity, and effective communication skills. "America's Top Young Scientist" was chosen on October 13.

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