

## Class of 2005

### **Patrick Sellars, First Place**

*Dorman High School  
Roebuck, SC*

Patrick's project created a children's book and matching coloring books that focused on teaching conservation to elementary school children. He incorporated unique factors, such as the mascots of each elementary school in the district as well as teachers from each school, and worked on distributing these books to each individual school in the district.

### **Omi Naderi, Second Place**

*Charleston County School of the Arts  
North Charleston, SC*

Omi partnered with the Charleston School of the Arts to create a weekly after-school arts program for a Charleston middle school that did not offer an arts program to its students.

### **Shun Griffin, Second Place**

*Emerald High School  
Greenwood, SC*

Shun's vision for a program involved mentoring students and designing a project to teach students about leadership. "Operation Impact," formed by Shun and other Emerald HS students, took middle school students for Saturday meetings, in which they taught the eighth graders leadership skills, methods for handling difficult situations, and ways to deal with peer pressure.

### **Ellen Corman, Third Place**

*Escambia Academy-Alabama  
Atmore, AL*

Ellen worked to secure a \$75,000 grant from the US Department of Agriculture to replace trees destroyed by Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis in her hometown of Atmore, Alabama. Ellen made these trees available to the community through an "Adopt a Tree" campaign, to raise awareness that trees were being planted in the area.

### **Will Lankford, Honorable Mention**

*York Comprehensive High School  
York, SC*

Will used the York Place Episcopal Church Home for Children to work with its children in his program "Cougar Connection." Throughout his senior year, Will and members of various school groups at York Comprehensive HS traveled to the home and held several gatherings between the home's children and the

volunteers. Will's aim was to link the students at the home with high school students, by holding several beautification projects and holiday parties.

**Jane Werrell, Honorable Mention**

*Ashley Hall High School*

*Charleston, SC*

Jane organized the efforts of her classmates and together they worked through Habitat for Humanity to build a playground for children in a local Habitat neighborhood.

**Martha Bordogna**

*Spartanburg High School*

*Spartanburg, SC*

Martha organized a volunteer drive for the Spartanburg Children Shelter in Spartanburg, SC. The shelter houses children from the time they are taken from their unfit homes until they are placed in foster homes.

**Jonathan Cote**

*Fort Mill High School*

*Fort Mill, SC*

Jonathan established a student liaison board that would attend School board meetings for his district and present news and events taking place at Fort Mill HS. Jonathan's aim was to provide the School board with input from students, as well as giving the students to report to their student body with events and decisions made during these meetings. The School Board unanimously voted to accept this student board.

**Brandy Durham**

*Northwestern High School*

*Rock Hill, SC*

Brandy organized a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Fair for the city of Rock Hill and surrounding communities. The all day event incorporated speaker presentations, question and answer sessions, fun and food for all ages.

**Olivia Hightower**

*Midland Valley High School*

*Graniteville, SC*

Olivia formed a Global Awareness Group at Midland Valley which focused on answering the question "Have you changed the world today?" Her project entailed getting students together to discuss several issues that have been in the

news and that have a global focus, including the Darfur region, natural disasters, and political issues.

**Quentin James**

*Mauldin High School*

*Mauldin, SC*

Quentin worked with several members of the South Carolina Youth in Government (YIG) group to create a program called "Get Involved." Quentin's goal was to provide central, easy, accessible/informative virtual community maps to area youth. These maps recognized services and organizations that promote youth involvement in the community. Together with YIG and many student groups, Quentin was able to get these booklets made and aide in their distribution around the community.

**Niti Parthasarathy**

*South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts*

*Greenville, SC*

Niti created the "Rockstars" mentoring program, in which she and many high school classmates worked with the Earle Street Baptist Church afterschool program for students from Stone Academy. Niti's focus was to provide these elementary school students with role models and mentors in the community. She also helped out with a Martin Luther King, Jr. presentation at her school, and invited participants to take part in the "Rockstars" mentoring program following the MLK presentation.

**Elizabeth Powell**

*Carvers Bay High School*

*Hemingway, SC*

Elizabeth organized an awareness walk for Diabetes walk for the Diabetes CORE Program in Georgetown, SC. She used some students from my community and one or two from her high school to help out. Elizabeth worked with an organization that was already established called Diabetes CORE.

**Jennifer Rahn**

*Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School*

*Bamberg, SC*

Jennifer founded Project HOPE (Helping Others by Providing Enjoyment), a community service organization that basically provided recreational areas/activities to disadvantaged individuals in her community (ie. nursing home residents, special ed students.) Some of the projects completed were creating a huge garden and sitting area at the local nursing home, creating an educational planting garden for the special ed students at the local primary

school, organizing bingo/reading/relaxation events at the nursing home, and beautifying the grounds of the local high school and middle school.

**Emily Wilson**

*Hartsville High School*

*Hartsville, SC*

Emily worked with middle school students (most in the sixth grade) who expressed an interest in leadership and career opportunities. Through the help of several community members, Emily brought many professionals to speak to a group of students from a Hartsville middle school. Each presenter spoke about his/her profession and leadership qualities necessary for the career.

**Adrian Zoller**

*Gilmour Academy*

*Gates Mills, OH*

Adrian used the election year as a means of educating the community on several science topics that were in the news. She gave several presentations on topics such as stem cell research, as well as encouraging many youth to register to vote and learning more about the important election issues.