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## Young Hoosiers From Indiana Win 2023 National *You Be The Chemist* Challenge®

*Team members earn scholarships after wowing industry panel*

ARLINGTON, VA – CEF is pleased to announce that the Young Hoosiers Club from Indiana earned the \$12,000 scholarship as the winner of the 2023 National *You Be The Chemist* Challenge, coming first out of 6,000 students from 240 schools.

When asked about the benefit of The Challenge, one of the winning students said, “It helped me realize that the real competition in life is with oneself, not with others. And that is the true purpose of the challenge: to learn valuable lessons from others and ourselves that we will carry with us.”

The National Challenge brought together fifth- through eighth-graders from various regions to showcase their STEM knowledge as well as their 21st Century Learning Skills such as critical thinking, digital literacy, creative problem-solving, effective communication, and collaboration. Participants competed regionally and created a 5-7-minute video where they developed a sustainable start-up company. The top five teams competed at the National Challenge in Houston, TX, where they engaged in interviews with a distinguished panel of representatives from STEM industries.



Executive Director Dwayne Sattler stated, “Witnessing the passion and dedication of these young students is truly inspiring. I am confident they will continue to make a positive impact on our world, and CEF is honored to be part of their journey. We are grateful to Presenting Sponsor Univar Solutions, as well as the parents, teachers, and volunteers who contributed to the success of The Challenge.”

As the travel sponsor of the winning team, Corteva Agriscience congratulates all the participating students for a job well done. Director of Formulations and Packaging and CEF Board Trustee Alysia Diffendal stated, “The skills these students learned and developed through the Challenge will last a lifetime and contribute to the future STEM workforce needed in our industry and many others.”

CEF would also like to extend its thanks to Trailblazers Sponsors Barentz and BASF, and Innovators Brenntag North America, Corteva Agriscience, Halliburton Charitable Foundation, Hawkins, Inc., LyondellBasell Industries, ICL Specialty Products, Inc., PPG Industries, and Shell USA, along with other sponsors, for their invaluable support in making The Challenge a resounding success.

A parent-led team from Redmond, Washington secured second place, while Hudson Middle School from Ohio claimed third place. For a complete list of state winners and their videos, please visit [our website](#).

CEF is a nonprofit dedicated to building the future STEM workforce by inspiring students, engaging educators, and strengthening communities. See [chemed.org](http://chemed.org) for more information.