

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 4

CONTACT: ALYSON FREEDMAN
(202) 558-8866
afreedman@chemed.org

Student teams compete for scholarships in STEM-focused Challenge in Houston, TX

20 students were chosen out of 9,000 participants

ARLINGTON, VA – The Chemical Educational Foundation™ (CEF) announced that five teams of students from Illinois, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Washington will compete for scholarships at the National *You Be The Chemist* Challenge® on June 6 at The Westin Houston, Memorial City in Houston, Texas.

CEF, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring students to pursue chemistry and STEM-related learning and careers, is proud to bring the competition to Houston, the home of NASA's Johnson Space Center. This year's theme is states of matter in space, and the Awards Dinner keynote speaker is Ryan Prouty, the Managing Director of the International Space Station Research Coordination Office. Attendees will also be treated to a space-themed performance by the Bay Area Houston Ballet & Theatre.



Ms. Prouty will discuss the importance of collaboration, innovation, scientific curiosity, and pursuing STEM-based careers for future generations, ideas and skills also emphasized by the Challenge. Past participant Aidan Blum, of 3M, said, "Participating in the Challenge really changed my career trajectory. The love of chemistry... directed me to get a Bachelor's in chemical engineering and now to be a chemical engineer for my career."

Come see the National Challenge competition at 9:00 am CT on June 6, and perhaps see the next STEM leader or NASA engineer!

CEF thanks Presenting Sponsor Univar Solutions and Trailblazers Azalis Americas, Barentz, BASF, and Dow, whose support is invaluable to the success of the *You Be The Chemist* programs. CEF also thanks the many additional sponsors who have helped make this in-person competition possible this year.

Founded in 1989, CEF's work inspires students, engages educators, and strengthens communities to build a better world through the science of chemistry. For more information on CEF, please visit www.chemed.org.

###