



TEXAS ENVIROTHON

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RICHARDSON HIGH SCHOOL WINS TEXAS ENVIROTHON

North Texas team to represent the state in Raleigh, N.C.

April 18, 2019—A five-member team of high school students from Richardson, Texas, is the winner of the 2019 Texas Envirothon championship. The Science Academy of South Texas Team Green earned second place, and third place went to the Science Academy of South Texas Team Maroon. The event took place April 13 through 15 in Nacogdoches, TX.

“It’s important to expose students to the variety of natural resource careers available to them,” said Wendy Reistle, program coordinator of the Texas Envirothon. “It was great to return to SFA this year with so many natural resource educational options for the students to see.”

Students on the winning team are Olivia Hughes, Elijah Montague, Emily Morrison, Kathryn Anderson, and Nick Lemon. The team will travel to Raleigh, N.C., to compete against teams from the states and Canadian provinces for scholarships at the NCF-Envirothon. Tony Strohmeyer and Alisa Salvans served as the team’s advisers.

Top scoring teams on the field exam by topic and in the oral presentation were recognized during an afternoon ceremony at Stephen F. Austin State University. Richardson High School’s Team Question Mark Butterfly, took the top spots in Aquatics, Soils, Wildlife and Current Issue. Forestry went to Richardson High School Team Firewheel. The Science Academy of South Texas Team Maroon took first place in Oral Presentation.

Ten teams representing six Texas high schools participated in the three-day competition. Participating schools were Academy of Science and Technology, The Woodlands; Richardson High School, Richardson; Rio Hondo High School, Rio Hondo; Science Academy of South Texas, Mercedes; Seven Lakes High School, Katy; and The Woodlands College Park High School, The Woodlands.

Financial support for the event was provided by conservation districts and natural resource related agencies and businesses from across Texas. Gold sponsor for the event was Eastman Chemical Company. Silver sponsor was LyondellBasell. Bronze sponsors included Gulf Coast Authority, Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation District, NCF-Envirothon/U.S. Forest Service, Texas Association of Environmental Professionals, and Texas Forestry Association Education Fund. Other contributors to the event were the Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation District, Harris County Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Texas Association for Environmental Education. Stephen F. Austin State University and the SFA Pineywoods Native Plant Center hosted the event.



Richardson High School takes top honors at the Texas Envirothon on Monday, April 15, 2019, at Stephen F. Austin State University. Pictured are Olivia Hughes, Elijah Montague, Emily Morrison, Kathryn Anderson, and Nick Lemon. The team will represent Texas at the NCF-Envirothon in July.

ABOUT ENVIROTHON

Envirothon is an academic, extra-curricular environmental and natural resource education program and competition designed for high school students. Teams composed of five students answer questions focusing on five areas of study: aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and the current environmental issue. In addition to the field experience, students also participate in an oral component focusing on a real-world environmental problem.

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If you would like more information about the Texas Envirothon, please contact Wendy Reistle at 281-283-3045 or email at reistle@uhcl.edu.