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**Nine Academy Students Win Big at 2016 International Ocean Awareness Video Contest**

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Harrisburg Academy's 2015-16 8<sup>th</sup> grade Global Issues course students submitted projects to the Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Program's 2016 Ocean Awareness Student Contest last May, and final results are in — five of the projects, produced in collaboration by nine current Academy students, were winners:

**Silver Award (\$750 prize) - Madison H. '20**  
(click to view her project video, ["The Effects of Plastic Pollution"](#))

**Bronze Award (\$250 prize) - Liam D. '20 and Nate S. '20**  
(click to view their project video, ["Ocean Acidification"](#))

**Bronze Award (\$250 prize) - Kate C. '20, Eugenia K. '20, and Emilee W. '20**  
(click to view their project video, ["Somewhere Over the Landfills"](#))

**Honorable Mention (\$100 prize) - Mitchell M. '20 and Tyler Q. '20**  
(click to view their project video, ["Plastic Pollution"](#))

**Honorable Mention (\$100 prize) - Sophia H. '20 and Isabelle B.**  
(click to view their project video, ["The Sargassum Seaweed Situation"](#))

Against 900 middle school entries from around the world, Harrisburg Academy's students took three of the five top video awards in the contest. Middle School history teacher and project coordinator, Lindsay Bowman, also won a Sponsor Recognition Award (along with a \$750 prize).

"I am extremely proud of all of my students and their hard work in creating these videos," Bowman said. "They were engaged and concerned as we discussed the current state of our oceans, and they were eager to bring awareness to the various causes of ocean pollution through this project."

In her Global Issues course, Bowman helps students begin to understand the interconnected nature of the world and the issues facing all nations through research and projects. During the 4th quarter of the academic year last year, one of the issues discussed in class was the connection between human activities and the health of the world's oceans. The students were challenged to focus on one type of ocean pollution and "make meaning" of it through film, to then be submitted to the competition.

"We aim to empower students to think creatively about solutions to ocean pollution," said Linda Cabot, founder and president of Bow Seat. "We believe that students who learn by 'creating' experience deeper learning and longer-lasting behavior change. We appreciate Lindsay's efforts to inspire, empower, and engage her students in environmental awareness, ocean activism, and the arts – Bow Seat could not do what we're doing without the help of sponsors like Lindsay."

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### **About Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs:**

Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs is a Boston-based nonprofit whose mission is to empower the next generation of ocean caretakers through art, science, and advocacy. Nearly 4,000 middle and high schoolers worldwide have participated in the Ocean Awareness Student Contest since its inception five years ago, and Bow Seat has awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarships to talented teens.

### **About Harrisburg Academy:**

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17<sup>th</sup> oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg's only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12<sup>th</sup> grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website or contact Miranda Connelly at 717-763-7811 or via email at [connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org](mailto:connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org).

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