



News from the Ohio Turnpike

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For Immediate Release:

Turnpike announces winners of its W82TXT Video Contest for High Schoolers

BEREA (Sept. 19, 2018) – The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission today announced the winners of its 2018 Ohio Turnpike W82TXT Video Contest.

Designed to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving, the Turnpike Commission’s inaugural contest reached far and wide for entries across the state of Ohio.

Here are the winners:

- Grand Prize Winner: Samuel Richardson of Loveland High School, Loveland, Ohio, for his animated short video, “#W82TXT.”

[LINK TO VIDEO](#)

- Runner-up: Kate Barnhart of St. Ursula Academy, Toledo, Ohio, for her video titled, “Put the Phone Down and W82TXT.”

[LINK TO VIDEO](#)

- 2nd Runner-up: Olivia McConnell of LaBrae High School, Leavittsburg, Ohio, for her video titled “Put it Down—don’t’ text and drive—it can wait.”

[LINK TO VIDEO](#)

“Congratulations to our winners,” said Randy Cole, Executive Director, Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission. “Don’t worry if you didn’t win this year. We’re going to hold this contest again next spring so please start planning your next W82TXT Video now.”

“Who knows?” asked Cole. “Your video may even help someone prevent a crash or save a life!”

[The W82TXT Video Contest](#) corresponded with what’s become known as the “100 Deadliest Days,” which are the summer months between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety has found new teen drivers ages 16-17 years old are three times as likely as adults to be involved in a deadly crash during this period. By engaging teens during this critical time, their efforts, shared on social media, raised awareness and influenced peers to make safe choices while behind the wheel.

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Prizes for the three winners include their choice of a DJI Osmo video camera, GoPro video camera, Apple iPad or a \$250 Amazon Gift Card. The winners will choose their prize in the order in which their video placed. The Grand Prize Winner will also select a booster club at their High School to receive a \$500 donation. The Commission will hold a second contest in 2019. Stay tuned.

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