

MEDIA RELEASE

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Local Auto Dealers Association Finds A Way to Continue its 28-Year-Old Tech Comp During the Pandemic

*--More Than \$1 Million in Scholarships and Prizes Was Awarded At This Year's Virtual Rendition of the Event;
Middle Bucks Institute of Technology Took First Place--*

East Norriton, Pa., April 23, 2021 – The Auto Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia, in conjunction with its Auto Dealers CARing for Kids Foundation, announces the results of its 2021 Greater Philadelphia Auto Technology Competition (Tech Comp). Middle Bucks Institute of Technology placed first this year and took home approximately \$240,000 in scholarships and prizes. Through the event, a collective \$1 million in scholarships and prizes was distributed amongst 24 seniors from area high schools.

“We’ve been hosting this event for the last 28 years and we were determined to make it happen again in ’21,” said Mary Lynn Alvarino, director of operations for both the Auto Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia and Auto Dealers CARing for Kids Foundation. “We knew that a virtual event would be our only option this year. Thankfully, Electude, an automotive E-learning program, donated the use of its resources to auto associations across the country so we used that and ran with it.”

The purpose of the Tech Comp is to build awareness for the growing need for qualified auto technicians in today’s workforce as well as spotlight their specialized skills and professionalism. Auto technicians of the 21st Century must have highly-polished math and computer skills in addition to mechanical aptitude. This competition focused on all these skill sets. It provided the opportunity for 12 elite teams of the finest auto students from the Philadelphia area to work against the clock in a timed test. The 24 high school seniors competing in the virtual event had just two hours to get through 159 questions covering the following nine Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) areas of the automobile: Engine Repair, Automatic Transmission/Transaxle, Manual Drive Train and Axles, Suspension and Steering, Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, Heating and Air Conditioning, Engine Repair and Diesel Engines.

As mentioned, first place was captured by Ryan Pressman and Timothy Logan Kirby of Middle Bucks Institute of Technology who were under the direction of Instructor Robert Schwarz. Together, the winning duo collected more than \$240,000 in scholarships, tools and prizes. Keystone Volvo Cars was the team’s dealership sponsor.

Second place honors went to Robert Crawford and Nicholas Surette of Gloucester County Institute of Technology. The team, which was sponsored by Holman Ford Lincoln and led by Glenn Hubert, collected more than \$174,000 in prizes. James Fleming and Thomas Distler of Delaware County Technical High School collected more than \$90,000 in earnings as the third-place winners. Sponsored by Conicelli Toyota of Springfield, they were under the direction of Instructor William Jenkins.

The 24 students who participated in the virtual event qualified via their scores on a 100-question online exam in November. More details and information can be found at MoreThanAutoDealers.com.

About the Auto Dealers Caring for Kids Foundation

The Auto Dealers Caring for Kids Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Auto Dealers Association of Greater Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Auto Show. Established in 2003, the Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, aims to enhance and enrich the lives of children and youth in the five-county Philadelphia area through its signature programs; the Black Tie Tailgate, Greater Philadelphia Auto Technology Competition and the Driving Away the Cold new coat program. To date, it has contributed more than \$16 million in support of its mission. Visit MoreThanAutoDealers.com for additional details.

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