



National Energy Foundation

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Dari Scott
Director, NEF
801-908-5800
dari@nefl.org

D. Wright
Public Relations, NEF
800-616-8326
dwright@nefl.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IGNITING CREATIVE ENERGY CHALLENGE
Winners Receive Recognition from National Leaders

SALT LAKE CITY (August 15, 2003) – Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) was on hand at the 2003 National Energy Forum to presents constituent Marina Olvesky with a leather-bound certificate in recognition of Marina being named grand prize winner in the high school division of the 2003 *Igniting Creative Energy Challenge*. Marina was one of four grand prize winners (including one teacher and three students) awarded a VIP “insiders’ tour” of Washington D.C. in June 2003 for themselves and a parent or legal guardian. While in the nation’s capital, winners toured, attended special events and participated in the 2003 National Energy Efficiency Forum. At the Forum, *Challenge* winners were honored with an invitation to present their *Challenge* project to government and energy leaders. A congressional reception also honored this group, and was attended by Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) in honor of New Mexico winner Linnea Rowley.



Senator Dianne Feinstein recognizes student winner Marina Olevsky of LaJolla, California as high school division energy competition winner.

The *Igniting Creative Energy Challenge* is an educational competition designed to encourage students in grades K-12 to learn more about energy and the environment. Participants were asked to submit entries that reflected the theme of “Igniting Creative Energy” and



Senator Jeff Bingaman and Linnea Rowley, winner of elementary division, at a special Congressional Reception for the winners of Igniting Creative Energy.

demonstrate an understanding of what an individual, family or group can do to make a difference in their home or community. This is right in line with the *Rebuild America* message of taking positive action to save energy dollars. The *Rebuild America* strategic partner network assisted National Energy Foundation in creating nationwide awareness of this educational opportunity. Students expressed their ideas on energy conservation and the environment in the broad variety of ways, including science projects, essays, stories, poetry, artwork, photographs, music, video and web site projects.

The 2003 *Igniting Creative Energy Challenge* entrees were outstanding and a reflection of the students’ inventiveness and involvement. Here are this year’s winners:

- Elementary Division: Linnea Rowley, fourth grade, Comanche Elementary, Albuquerque Public Schools District, Albuquerque, N.M., composed and recorded a song about recycling. In addition, she recycled PVC pipe, construction paper, wood and metal into musical instruments.
- Middle School Division: Tyler Carter, eighth grade, McNair Middle School, Brevard School District, Cocoa, FL., wrote and illustrated a comic book to educate other kids on the simple things they can do to improve the environment.
- High School Division: Marina Olevsky (pictured on first page), sophomore, La Jolla High School, San Diego Unified School District, La Jolla, Calif., encouraged readers to band together and embrace the planet through an eloquently written poem.
- Teacher Division: Siobhan O’Brien, second grade teacher, George Washington Elementary School, Lakeland Central School District, Mohegan Lake, N.Y., submitted 18 exceptional qualifying student entries to the Igniting Creative Energy Challenge.

The *Igniting Creative Energy Challenge* participants included entries from across the U.S. and also Canada. Each person participating received an award certificate and a commemorative 2003 pin. Rules about the contest and results may be found on the official *Challenge* web site, www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org.

As the *Igniting Creative Energy Challenge* wraps up its second year, positive response to the relevance of the program propel plans for a third year in 2004. Sponsorship is funded through an educational grant by Johnson Controls, Inc. with additional support from the United States Energy Association. National Energy Foundation serves as the contest administrator.

Johnson Controls, Inc. is a global market leader in automotive systems and facility management and control. USEA is composed of approximately 150 public and private energy-related organizations, corporations and government agencies and represents the United States in the World Energy Council.

National Energy Foundation is a unique 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the development, dissemination, and implementation of supplementary educational materials, programs and courses that relate primarily to energy, water, natural resources, science and math, technology, conservation and the environment. These teaching resources recognize the importance and contribution of natural resources to our economy, to our national security, the environment and our quality of life. NEF is a *Rebuild America* Strategic Partner. For more information about National Energy Foundation, visit the NEF Web site at www.nef1.org.

###