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## **C-SPAN ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF ITS STUDENTCAM 2009 VIDEO COMPETITION**

*Top 27 Winning Videos to air on C-SPAN; Winners to be Interviewed during  
"Washington Journal" Beginning April 1, 2009*

**WASHINGTON (March 10, 2009)** – C-SPAN announced today the 75 winners in its national video documentary competition. The winners were announced today during C-SPAN's live viewer call-in program, "[Washington Journal](#)."

The national competition, now in its fifth year, invited all middle school students (grades 6-8) and high school students (grades 9-12) to produce a five to eight minute documentary focusing on the topic: **"A message to the new president: What is the most urgent issue for the new president to address after taking office, and why?"**

"Coming off this historic election, students were eager to express their views to the new president, and did so in record numbers," said Joanne Wheeler, C-SPAN Vice President of Education Relations. "We're delighted with this year's submissions, and impressed with the sophistication and visual expression students display to convey their opinions on major issues facing their communities and the nation.

"StudentCam would not be possible without the funding we receive from our cable providers," Wheeler continued. "It is their support of C-SPAN and StudentCam, and their commitment to cable as an educational resource that allows students the opportunities to grow and learn both in and out of the classroom."

**The top 27 videos will air on C-SPAN, one each day, starting on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 6:50 a.m. ET, followed by an interview with the winning students at 9:30 AM (ET) during C-SPAN's Washington Journal.**

A total of 75 winners and 11 teacher awards were announced by C-SPAN accompanied by \$50,000 in cash awards, including a Grand Prize winner, plus two 1<sup>st</sup> Prize winners; eight 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winners; sixteen 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize winners; and 48 Honorable Mentions in middle and high school categories.

This year's C-SPAN's StudentCam video documentary competition generated a record number of entries. Over 1,900 students from 41 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam submitted nearly 1,000 entries, marking a 300% increase from 2008.

The top five issues on the mind of students across the country were:

- 1) Economy
- 2) Education
- 3) Alternative energy
- 4) Climate change
- 5) Iraq War/War on Terror/National security issues

The videos were judged by a panel of C-SPAN representatives and evaluated based on the thoughtful examination of the contest theme, quality of expression, adherence to the time limit, the balance of views presented, and use of C-SPAN programming.

#### **About C-SPAN Classroom**

C-SPAN Classroom, [www.c-spanclassroom.org](http://www.c-spanclassroom.org), is a free membership service dedicated to support educators' use of C-SPAN programming in their classes or for research. Members may access free, downloadable C-SPAN video clips for use in the classroom, that are selected from signature programs and event coverage including the signature political program "Road to the White House." C-SPAN Classroom has reached more than one million students since its inception in 1987.

#### **About C-SPAN**

Marking 30 years as America's political network of record, C-SPAN was created by America's cable companies as a public service in 1979. C-SPAN programs three public affairs television networks; C-SPAN Radio, a Washington, D.C. radio station distributed nationally by XM Satellite Radio; and a video-rich website. C-SPAN is currently available in over 92 million cable and satellite households. For more information, visit [www.c-span.org](http://www.c-span.org).

**NOTE TO EDITORS: Winning videos may be viewed from [www.studentcam.org](http://www.studentcam.org) and used in a broadcast with attribution to C-SPAN. To schedule an interview with the students or with C-SPAN education relations staff, please contact Meredith Rapp at 202.626.4861 or John Cardarelli at 202.626.8797.**