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C-SPAN ANNOUNCES 75 WINNERS FOR 2012 STUDENTCAM DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

Grand Prize Winner highlights Fifth Amendment as an important part of the U.S. Constitution

WASHINGTON (March 7, 2012) – Matthew Shimura, a ninth-grader at Punahou School in Hawaii, will receive \$5,000 as Grand Prize winner in C-SPAN’s 2012 StudentCam competition. In looking at the competition’s theme, ***“The Constitution and You: Select any provision of the U.S. Constitution and create a video illustrating why it’s important to you,”*** Matthew highlighted the Fifth Amendment in his video, ***“[The Constitution and the Camps: Due Process and the Japanese-American Internment.](#)”*** First Prize winners **Carl Colglazier and Leo Pfeifer** discussed Intellectual Property and the First Amendment, respectively. Each will receive \$3,000 for their work.

Shimura, Colglazier, and Pfeifer are three of the 148 students across the country who are sharing a total of \$50,000 in prizes for their videos. In addition to the grand prize and first prize winners, C-SPAN is awarding eight 2nd prizes, 16 3rd prizes, and 48 honorable mentions. The winners will be announced today during C-SPAN’s live viewer call-in program, *Washington Journal*.

The national competition, now in its eighth 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 any provision of the Constitution that means the most to them. Students from 43 states, DC, and Puerto Rico submitted a record number 1,203. The top three winning topics are:

- 1st Amendment
- Article I (Structure and Powers of Congress)
- 26th Amendment (Voting Rights for 18 year olds)

“C-SPAN’s StudentCam continues to be a snapshot of what young people consider important,” says Joanne Wheeler, C-SPAN Vice President of Education Relations. “In yet another record-breaking year for entries, students across the country continue to demonstrate just how much their voices count, especially when it comes to the foundation of our government, the Constitution.”

Click [here](#) for brief YouTube video of Wheeler explaining StudentCam and describing the winners.

The top 27 videos will air on C-SPAN, one each day, starting Sunday, April 1, at 6:50 a.m. ET, followed by an interview with the winning student at 9:15 a.m. ET during C-SPAN's "Washington Journal." Air times are subject to change. All 75 winning videos are available for viewing at www.c-span.org/studentcam and may be used in a broadcast with attribution to C-SPAN. To schedule an interview with the students or with C-SPAN education staff, please contact Pam McGorry, Education Programs Specialist, at 202.626.4861 or Tamara Robinson, Media Relations Specialist, at 202.626.6129.

The annual competition is sponsored by the C-SPAN Education Foundation and the documentaries were judged by a panel of educators and C-SPAN representatives. Videos were evaluated based on the thoughtful examination of the competition's theme, quality of expression, inclusion of varying sides of the documentary's topic, and effective incorporation of C-SPAN programming.

C-SPAN Classroom is partnering with the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia to honor the winners in this year's competition.

About C-SPAN Classroom:

C-SPAN Classroom is a free membership service dedicated to supporting educators' use of C-SPAN programming and websites in their classes or for research. Members of C-SPAN Classroom may access free Timely Teachable Videos and video clips for use in the classroom, as well as lesson plans, handouts and ways to connect with other C-SPAN Classroom members. C-SPAN Classroom has reached more than one million students since its inception in 1987. For more information on C-SPAN Classroom visit the website: <http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/> or follow on twitter: @CSPAN_Classroom.

About C-SPAN: Created by the cable TV industry and now in over 100 million TV households, C-SPAN programs three public affairs television networks in both SD and HD; C-SPAN Radio, heard in Washington DC and nationwide via XM Satellite Radio; and a video-rich website which hosts the C-SPAN Video Library. Visit <http://www.c-span.org/>.

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