



## Winners of 14<sup>th</sup> *eesmarts*<sup>TM</sup> Student Contest Announced

*Students from 17 different Connecticut cities and towns honored at ceremony*

**HARTFORD, Conn., May 13, 2019** – Energize Connecticut partners Eversource and United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas and Connecticut Natural Gas, subsidiaries of AVANGRID, Inc. honored 37 finalists during the 14<sup>th</sup> *eesmarts*<sup>TM</sup> Student Contest Award Ceremony at the State Capitol.

Over 800 Connecticut students in grades K-12 competed in this year’s contest. From posters to persuasive writing, community-based projects to creative writing, the *eesmarts* Student Contest encourages students to utilize their science, engineering, technology, art and mathematics skills to showcase their knowledge of energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability.

The ceremony attracted more than 150 students, parents, teachers, elected officials and clean energy supporters from across the state in celebration of the students’ hard work. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Deputy Commissioner Mary Sotos served as the ceremony’s keynote speaker, and Miss Connecticut 2018 Bridget Oei was the Master of Ceremonies.

“Since 2004, *eesmarts* has helped Connecticut teachers incorporate science and energy-efficiency in their classrooms, and helped to equip our students for success in the ever-changing energy efficiency and renewable energy landscape,” said Sotos. “It is an honor to be a part of this initiative and Connecticut’s energy efficiency legacy, and be in a position to help bring our student’s vision of an energy-efficient society to life.”

Representing 17 cities and towns across Connecticut, the 37 winners included:

### **Kindergarten**

First: Karina Marsh, Newington  
Second: Aiden Rivera, Stratford  
Third: Ailis Devlin, Torrington

### **First Grade**

First: Willie Rogers, Stratford  
Second: Abigail Chapman, Torrington  
Third: Noah Rivera, Stratford

### **Second Grade**

First: Greyson Shapard, Torrington  
Second: Valentina Villagra, Stratford

Third: Tasha Harmon, Torrington

### **Third Grade**

First: Kyle Thompson, Avon  
Second: Addison Nappi, Middlefield  
Third: Haley Pederson, Avon

### **Fourth Grade**

First: Eleanor Riley Larkin, Glastonbury  
Second: Taha Akyuz, Stratford  
Third: James Waters, Stonington

### **Fifth Grade**

First: Cali Purcaro, Torrington  
Second: Sanjith Tammana, Avon  
Third: Aidan Osiecki, Meriden

#### **Sixth Grade**

First: Harshmit Verman, Avon  
Second: Molly Bowman, Cheshire  
Third: Luke Kinney, Coventry

#### **Seventh Grade**

First: Lila Debano, Darien  
Second: Jack Pegler, Darien

Third: Mei Gallagher, Darien

#### **Eighth Grade**

First: Natalia Mocarski, New Britain  
Second: Jakub Kuczynski, New Britain  
Third: Bryce Tomasino, Granby

#### **High School: Grades 9-11**

First: Gianna Guzzo, Andrea Lacunza, Windsor  
Second: Adara Huq, New Haven  
Third: Rishan Annadurai, Jean-Luc Bourget,  
Vaughn Peverly, Christopher Reed, Windsor

#### **High School: Grade 12**

First: Kendelle Pitts, Waterbury  
Second: Sarah Lewis, West Hartford  
Third: Rebecca-Kyrie Hutchinson, New Britain

Students in grades K-8 answered grade-level specific prompts in the form of a poster (Grades K-2), narrative (Grade 3), letter to the principal (Grade 4), book review (Grade 5), persuasive speech (Grade 6), persuasive poem or cartoon (Grade 7), or public service announcement (Grade 8). Students in grades 9-11 competed in the community based project category, which asked students to propose a plan and budget to address an energy-related issue in their community. Students in grade 12 created a persuasive image that advocated for energy conservation, alternate energy source or addressed an environmental concern.

For more information on the student contest and the *eesmarts* program, please visit [www.energizect.com/eesmarts](http://www.energizect.com/eesmarts).

#### ***About Energize Connecticut***

Energize Connecticut helps you save money and use clean energy. It is an initiative of the State of Connecticut, the Connecticut Green Bank, Eversource, UI, SCG and CNG, with funding from a charge on customer energy bills. Information on energy-saving programs can be found at [EnergizeCT.com](http://EnergizeCT.com) or by calling 877.WISE.USE.

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**PHOTO CAPTION:**

2019 eesmart™ winners at the State Capitol with representatives from Eversource; United Illuminating, Connecticut Natural Gas and Southern Connecticut Gas, AVANGRID, Inc. subsidiaries; DEEP Deputy Commissioner Mary Sotos; and Miss Connecticut 2018 Bridget Oei.