

# Youth Innovation Awards Program



This year Marketplace for Kids was pleased to announce a new awards program to further acknowledge our young entrepreneurs. The “Youth Innovation Awards Program” is designed to give special recognition to past winners of the Bright Ideas Showcase and Contest at their regional Education Day where they first presented their project.

The Bright Ideas Showcase and Contest, held in July of 2010, had some fantastic and innovative projects which resulted in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each grade level. Among those talented winners, the following students were recognized at their local Education Day throughout this past year:

## **From Region 1 Williston on April 19, 2011:**

Ruthanne Erickson, co-inventor of the Kernel Katcher

*Wilkinson Elementary School, Williston, ND*

Ashley Fagerland, inventor of The Flip Frame

*St. Joseph's Elementary School, Williston, ND*

## **From Region 2 Bottineau on March 15, 2011:**

Austin Suchan, inventor of the Bobcat Trailer #2

*Bottineau Middle School, Bottineau, ND*

Jacob Blessum, inventor of Bunnie Bites

*Little Flower School, Rugby, ND*

## **From Region 2 Minot on April 12, 2011:**

Hunter Benjamin, inventor of the Super Storage Dog House

*Edison Elementary School, Minot, ND*

Aspen Lenning, inventor of The Goat Bar

*Lewis & Clark Elementary School, Plaza, ND*

Hudson Roness, inventor of the Bag Binder

*Perkett Elementary School, Minot, ND*

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**From Region 7 Bismarck on May 2, 2011:**

Ian Ridenhour, inventor of the Animal Attack Trading Card Game

*Home School Student, Bismarck, ND*

Alex Harris, inventor of the Helmet Airbag

*Wilton Public School, Wilton, ND*

**From Region 8 Dickinson on March 16, 2011:**

Caden Tuhy, inventor of the Come Along Caller

*South Heart Public School, South Heart, ND*



While projects displayed at the regional Education Days are not judged, and all participants are awarded a ribbon, the Bright Ideas Showcase and Contest allows those students who want to take the next step in developing their project the opportunity to meet with judges and talk to professionals from various backgrounds. Encouragement and competition with other students from around the state allows the student to further improve and expand their vision for their project. By recognizing these student winners at their regional Education Day where they first began, other students will be encouraged to realize the full potential of their own ideas.□

