



PRESS RELEASE

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Local Student Named S.C. Geographic Bee Semifinalist By National Geographic Society

Anderson, SC – Alyssa Edwards has been notified by the National Geographic Society that she is one of 100 semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2011 South Carolina Geographic Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek. Bees were held in schools with fourth- through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school's Geographic Bee winner. School-level winners then took a qualifying test, which they submitted to the National Geographic Society. In each of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Dependent Schools, and the U.S. territories, the National Geographic Society invited the students with the top 100 scores to compete at the state level.

The 2011 South Carolina Geographic Bee will be held at the SC State Museum in Columbia on Friday, April 1, 2011.

The state winner will receive \$100, the "Complete National Geographic on DVD", and a trip to Washington, D.C., where he/she will represent South Carolina in the national finals at the National Geographic Society headquarters, May 24-25, 2011. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and lifetime membership in the Society. The national winner will also travel (along with one parent or guardian), all expenses paid, to the Galápagos Islands. The winner will experience geography firsthand through up-close encounters with the wildlife and landscape of Galápagos. Travel for the trip is provided by Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic. For additional information on the National Geographic Bee please visit:

www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee.

Alyssa is the daughter of Jerry and AnneClaire Edwards and, a sixth grade student at St. Joseph Catholic School in Anderson.

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