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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHANNELLOCK® ANNOUNCES 2019 TRADE SCHOOL TRADE-UP WINNERS

MEADVILLE, Pa. (SEPTEMBER 24, 2019)—A Wisconsin high school welding program's generous and thoughtful contributions to its community helped it take first place in the CHANNELLOCK® Trade School Trade-Up competition. The competition challenges students to create a one-of-a-kind video showcasing their team's technical skills in action. Videos are judged based on creativity, passion for their respective trade, and the impact made on their community with the help of CHANNELLOCK® tools. Teams must be made up of students in auto, plumbing, welding, electrical or HVAC trades.

Channellock, Inc., presented first-place to Ladysmith High School in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, with a prize of \$5,000 cash, new tools for students and their classroom, and a CHANNELLOCK® classroom makeover. The school's welding program was chosen for its unique video highlighting its welding program and the improvements and contributions it has made to its city. Those include silhouettes for its city veterans memorial, railings for city parks, downtown bike racks, and repairing burned out grills in city parks. Students in the program have also created numerous sign art pieces and metal frame tables that they've donated to community organizations for charity auctions.

"We believe in educating the future of our skilled workforce in America," said Jon DeArment, president and chief operating officer of Channellock, Inc. "Trade School Trade-Up was created to give students in trade schools an opportunity to showcase their abilities and demonstrate the value of career and technical education. Channellock, Inc., is dedicated to helping close the national skills gap by equipping the future tradesmen and women of America with tools for success. We hope this program inspires trade school students to give back to their communities and be proud of their craft."

Channellock, Inc., selected the top three submissions and released them for social media voting. Once all the votes were in, Ladysmith High School was awarded first-place after receiving the most social media likes for their video submission.

"The investment CHANNELLOCK® is making in our students and welding program will have a huge impact not only now, but for years to come," said Kyle Jeffress, welding instructor at Ladysmith High School. "The extra resources will allow us to take our program and our projects to the next level. This will go a long way

for our students as we do our best to make them college and career-ready. The return on investment will be so significant that it is impossible to measure.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNING SCHOOLS

1st Place: Ladysmith High School; Ladysmith, WI – Welding

\$5,000 cash prize, CHANNELLOCK® tools for team members and their classroom, and a classroom makeover with CHANNELLOCK BLUE® wall paint and fatheads

2nd Place: Norwalk High School; Norwalk, CA – Auto

\$2,500 cash prize, CHANNELLOCK® tools for team members and their classroom

3rd Place: Great Oaks Career Campuses, Laurel Oaks Campus; Wilmington, OH – Auto

\$1,000 cash prize, CHANNELLOCK® tools for team members and their classroom

This is the second year of the Trade School Trade-Up competition, originally introduced in June of 2018 at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC), a showcase of career and technical education students. The 2018 winner, Worcester Tech High School, received a welding department classroom makeover. To see the before and after, watch the video on [YouTube](#).

Learn more about the competition and stay tuned for the 2020 Trade School Trade-Up competition by visiting <https://www.channellock.com/tradeup/>.

ABOUT CHANNELLOCK, INC.

Channellock, Inc., is a worldwide leader in the manufacture of high-quality pliers and assorted hand tools, including iconic, American-made CHANNELLOCK® Tongue & Groove pliers, which can be found in quality retailers around the world. Founded by George B. DeArment in 1886, the Meadville, Pennsylvania-based company is now in its fifth generation of family ownership and operation. For more information on CHANNELLOCK® products, the company’s rich history, sales contacts and current news, visit www.channellock.com. To stay connected with Channellock, Inc., like us on Facebook or follow CHANNELLOCK® on Twitter and Instagram.