



Contact:

Lisa Cazzola
DBA Public Relations
(212) 388-1400
lcazzola@dba-pr.com

Kate Falk
National Science Teachers Association
(703) 312-9211
kfalk@nsta.org

For Immediate Release

**TOSHIBA/NSTA EXPLORAVISION CELEBRATES
20TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF ENHANCING STEM EDUCATION**

***-- World's Largest K-12 Science and Technology Competition Kicks Off 2012,
Announces Important Entry Dates; Empowers Students to Change the World --***

Arlington, VA, August 24 – For the past 20 years, hundreds of thousands of students across the U.S. and Canada have gained an understanding of how they can use science and technology to change the world through Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision, the world's largest K–12 science and technology competition. As the program has evolved over the past two decades, it continues to encompass a wide variety of potentially beneficial student ideas and technological innovations, always remaining true to its core mission, to encourage excellence and motivate students in STEM disciplines. Applications for next year's competition will be available online at exploravision.org starting September 1st and are due by February 1, 2012.

The ExploraVision program, sponsored by Toshiba and administered by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), was created to help motivate young students to excel in science and technology. It challenges teams of 2-4 students to research scientific principles and current technologies as the basis for designing innovative technologies that could exist in 20 years. By instilling a sense of empowerment and the great potential of science, ExploraVision motivates students to excel and helps contribute to building the next generation of scientists, entrepreneurs and innovators.

In fact, past winning students often credit ExploraVision for inspiring them to pursue STEM-related careers. Eleanor Ross, a 1995 student winner and now a Board Certified Pediatrician training in Pediatric Cardiology, stated, "My experience with ExploraVision inspired me to remain curious and think critically about the world. It led to my interest in scientific research, from my simple project examining plant growth in high school, to my current study looking at predictors of surgical outcomes in infants with congenital heart disease. In my daily work, I employ skills I learned through ExploraVision - brainstorming ideas, developing action plans, working as a team, and helping people."

Noted Mr. Yoshihide Fujii, Chairman and CEO of Toshiba America, Inc.: "2012 is a very significant milestone for ExploraVision. Everyone at Toshiba is celebrating this 20th anniversary with pride, gratification and most especially a sense of wonder at the truly amazing things that have been accomplished both by the students whose innovative ideas continue to inspire us all, and of course by the many dedicated teachers, coaches and mentors, without whom ExploraVision simply could not

exist. As a technology company that has always made innovation and creativity our top priorities, Toshiba could not be more pleased with how ExploraVision not only reflects our own ideals and culture, but continues to inspire new generations of future scientists, engineers and inventors! Toshiba is also very grateful to the NSTA for its continuing contribution to the improvement of science and technology education. We're honored to have worked with such a great ExploraVision partner for the past 20 years."

"On this 20th anniversary, our deepest thanks go to Toshiba for their dedication to this program and their commitment to improving science education and learning. ExploraVision has introduced hundreds of thousands of K-12 students to new ideas, inspiring mentors, and exciting careers in science, technology, engineering and math," said Dr. Francis Eberle, executive director of NSTA. "NSTA looks forward to our continued partnership with Toshiba and providing more students with the opportunity to identify and solve real-world problems, think like scientists, and develop a personal connection with science."

In addition to providing students with the opportunity to win money they can use for college tuition, ExploraVision gives educators a valuable tool for helping motivate students to excel in science. As a testament to its value in schools, the program has become so popular among teachers that many across the U.S. and Canada now include it as part of their regular science curriculum. Since the program's inception in 1992, more than 287,000 students have submitted projects.

Students on the four first-place ExploraVision winning teams will each receive a \$10,000 U.S. Series EE Savings Bond valued at maturity. Students on second-place teams will each receive a \$5,000 bond valued at maturity. (Canadian winners receive Canada bonds purchased for the equivalent issue price in Canadian dollars.) The eight teams will also receive an expenses-paid trip with their families, mentor and coach to Washington, DC for a gala awards weekend in June 2012. Activities will include a visit to Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and a Science Showcase during which the students will display and demonstrate their winning ideas and enjoy sightseeing. The highlight of ExploraVision weekend will be a gala awards banquet and ceremony where students will be formally recognized for their creativity and accomplishments. Each of the 24 regional winning teams receives a Toshiba laptop for the school and each member of the regional winning teams will receive a Toshiba HD Camcorder.

Notably, in an ExploraVision first, the teacher who submits the most student projects this year will receive a Toshiba tablet PC. Teachers can learn more about ExploraVision and how to use it as a tool in the classroom through a series of Web Seminars at [The NSTA Learning Center](#). Join the first Web Seminar, "What is ExploraVision and How Can I Use It?" on Wednesday, September 21, 2011.

For more information or an application for 2012, visit www.exploravision.org or e-mail exploravision@nsta.org. Follow ExploraVision on Twitter at [@ToshibaInnovate](#) or join the ExploraVision Facebook Fan Page at www.Facebook.com/ToshibaInnovation.

###

About Toshiba

The Tokyo-based Toshiba Corporation is a leading innovator and diversified manufacturer and marketer of advanced electronic and electrical products, spanning information and communications equipment and systems, Internet-based solutions and services, electronic components and materials, power systems, industrial and social infrastructure systems, and household appliances. Toshiba employs over 14,000 people in North America and Toshiba America, Inc., is the holding company for five Toshiba operating companies in the United States.

Toshiba's U.S.-based companies and some of their chief products are as follows: Toshiba America

Electronic Components, Inc. (Semiconductors, Flash Memory-Based Storage Solutions, LCD, and custom chips); Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc. (Laptop Computers, Hard Disk Drives, Telephony Products, Flat Panel LCD TVs, and portable products); Toshiba America Business Solutions, Inc. (Copiers, Facsimiles, Printers); Toshiba International Corporation (Motors, Motor Controls, Power Electronics, Power Generation Equipment, Automation); Toshiba America Medical Systems, Inc. (Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance, X-ray and Ultrasound); Toshiba America Nuclear Energy Corporation (Advanced Boiling Water Nuclear Reactors); Toshiba America Foundation (Supports science and mathematics education across the United States) and Toshiba of Canada, Ltd. (Made up of four operating divisions).

About NSTA

The Arlington, VA-based [National Science Teachers Association](#) (NSTA) is the largest professional organization in the world promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all. NSTA's current membership includes approximately 60,000 science teachers, science supervisors, administrators, scientists, business and industry representatives, and others involved in science education.