

Press Release



For Release: Immediate

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AASP-MN Hits the Track to Support Student Scholarships

The Alliance of Automotive Service Providers of Minnesota (AASP-MN) recently raised over \$10,500 during its 2018 fundraising campaign to support the AASP-MN Automotive Education Fund. The majority of that money was raised during its 16th Annual Race for Automotive Education, held January 9 & 10 at ProKart Indoor Racing in Burnsville, and will fund scholarships for automotive students enrolled in NATEF-certified mechanical and collision repair programs in Minnesota.

During the course of the two-night event, 115 racers tore up the track in state-of-the-art European karts, reaching speeds of nearly 40 miles per hour. Many fans and spectators were also on hand to cheer their teams on. 19 teams of mechanical and collision repair shops and industry suppliers were joined by 4 teams of automotive students from Dakota County Technical College and Dunwoody College. The student teams were sponsored by 1 Collision Network. As usual, the competition was fierce!

Trophies were awarded to the 1st place and runner-up teams. They were:

Tuesday, January 9th

1st Place – Pearson Auto Body, Shakopee
Runner-Up – Crystal Lake Automotive Team #1, Lakeville

Wednesday, January 10th

1st Place – LaMettry's Collision Team #1, Richfield
Runner-Up – Wenzel Auto Electric, Mankato

"Members use this event as an opportunity for team-building, and at the same time raise money for a very worthy cause," said Judell Anderson, AASP-MN Executive Director. "The addition of college students to the mix was great, and gave us a glimpse of what the industry's future workforce will bring to the table in terms of skills, drive and competitiveness."

In addition to the 23 race teams, the event was supported by the following sponsors:

- Auto Value Parts Stores/APH
- CBIZ AIA
- Finishmaster
- Meadowbrook Insurance
- Nordgren Automotive
- PPG Automotive Finishes
- United Fire Group

The Automotive Education Fund was established in 2002 to provide financial resources to support automotive students, enhance automotive programs and raise awareness of career opportunities in the automotive service industry. Since its inception, nearly \$208,000 has been distributed directly to students enrolled in automotive programs through the association's scholarship program and Skills USA participation.

AASP-MN is an association of independently-owned automotive service businesses and industry suppliers dedicated to improving Minnesota's automotive service industry and the success of its nearly 800 members. For more information, visit www.aaspmn.org.

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Pearson Auto Body, 1st Place - Tuesday



LaMettry's Collision, Team 1, 1st Place Wednesday