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WINNER NAMED IN DRIVE SAFE CHICAGO DISTRACTED DRIVING PSA CONTEST

**Valparaiso student, 17, wins \$2,000 from The National Road Safety Foundation;
Winning PSA debuts at Chicago Auto Show before being broadcast nationwide**

CHICAGO, Feb. 9, 2018 -- A 30-second public service announcement about distracted driving by Haynen Johnson, 17, a student at Porter County Career Center in Valparaiso, Ind., was named winner of the fourth annual Drive Safe Chicago PSA Contest. In addition to receiving a \$2,000 prize from The National Road Safety Foundation, a non-profit group that promotes safe driving, the winner's message will debut at the Chicago Auto Show before airing nationwide on more than 150 TV stations.

The contest invited teens from the Chicago area to write a script for a public service message about the dangers of distracted driving, which kills more than 3,300 people every year. Three entries were selected as finalists and all worked with an Emmy Award-winning director to make their scripts into finished 30-second TV spots.

Johnson's winning video, titled "Tasteless," shows a teen eating a burger and having a soft drink while he tries to drive. As he juggles the food, he drops the drink and reaches down to pick it up. We hear a car horn honking and the driver looks up in horror as he says "Whoa!" The screen goes black as the words "Distracted Driving is Tasteless" come up.

All three of this year's finalists are students at the Porter County Career Center. The runners-up are Cheyanne Montozzi, 18, of Hebron, Ind. and Lauren Royter, 17, of Kouts, Ind. All are students of Bob Phelps.

"Even as today's cars have technical innovations that help avoid crashes and protect occupants in the event of one, distracted driving continues to be a major risk for drivers," said 2018 Chicago Auto Show Chairman John Hennessy. "All of the *Drive Safe Chicago* finalists communicate the important message that distracted driving is dangerous driving."

"Haynen's winning video communicates an important message that distracted driving is more than texting and cellphones," said Michelle Anderson of The National Road Safety Foundation. "It shows that even something as commonplace as eating is not something to do while driving. Driving is not something that can be multi-tasked."

Information about distracted driving and the *Drive Safe Chicago* Contest can be seen at www.nrsf.org/teenlane/content/drive-safe-chicago

The National Road Safety Foundation, Inc. (NRSF), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization founded more than 55 years ago, produces traffic safety programs on distracted driving, speed and aggression, impaired driving, drowsy driving, driver proficiency, pedestrian safety and a host of other safety issues. It distributes the programs free of charge to schools, police and traffic safety advocates, community groups and individuals. It also sponsors contests to engage teens in promoting safe driving to their peers and in their communities. For more information or to download free programs, visit www.nrsf.org or www.teenlane.org.

The Chicago Auto Show is the largest auto show in North America, spanning more than one million square feet of production, concept, and exotic vehicle exhibit space. In addition to hosting multiple world and North American vehicle debuts, the Chicago Auto Show's First Look for Charity raises more than \$2.5 million annually for 18 vital Chicago organizations in a single night. The 2018 public show will be Feb. 10-19. For more, visit www.ChicagoAutoShow.com or www.Facebook.com/ChicagoAutoShow.