



Awards from The Tech Challenge 2011

The Tech Challenge 2011: Trash Island: The Great Pacific Gyre attracted more than 250 teams – a record-breaking nearly 1200 students who represented 9 Bay Area counties and beyond. Teams competed in 3 divisions: Elementary, Middle School, and High School.

Below is the complete list of 2011 winners, including a record number of winning girl teams. The Best Overall Solution award is based on the team's efforts in 3 categories: Device Performance, Engineering Design Process, and Style and Presentation. Excellence in all 3 categories earns teams this top award.

Grades 5-6

Best Overall Solution: Grand Prize: Team 246: Rolling Tacos, Harker School (San Jose, CA) **2nd Place:** Team 365: AKA Eco Force 3, Encinal School (Menlo Park, CA) **3rd Place:** Team 384: Clean up Crew, Menlo School (Atherton, CA)

Most Reliable: Team 611: Barracuda Bots, Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)

Most Efficient: Team 612: Ocean Commotion, Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)

Most Sustainable: Team 121: Olympic Junk Destroyers, Discovery Charter School (San Jose)

Most Resourceful use of materials: Team 579: Oceanus Salutaris, (Hillsborough, CA)

Most Innovative Design: Team 305: Waste Busters, Independent Elementary School (Castro Valley, CA)

Best Teamwork: Team 507: Underwater AquaGrabber 2011, Lakewood Elementary (Sunnyvale. CA)

Best Verbal Presentation: Team 426: SOS (Save Our Seas), Harker School (Los Altos)

Best Costume: Team 503: Pacific Ocean Warriors, Lakewood Elementary School (Sunnyvale)

Best Journal: Team 504: Tidal Waves, Lakewood Elementary School (Sunnyvale)

Most Innovative Robot: Team 317: Aqua Savers (Cupertino)

Most Mouse Traps Team 313: Aqua Scouts (Cupertino)

Outstanding Engineering Process: Team 376: Dynamic Duo, Jordan Middle School (Palo Alto)

Most Perseverance: Team 555: Environmental Protectors, Third Street Community Center (San Jose)

Greatest Risk Takers: Team 610: Ocean Cleanup Crew - OCC, Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)

Best Team Spirit: Team 87: Ocean Sweepers (San Jose)

Most Spectacular Failure Team 613: Trash Junkies from Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)

Best Team Name: Flaming Meteorites, Lakewood Elementary, Sunnyvale

Grades 7-8

Best Overall Solution: Grand Prize: Team 311: The Solution Seekers, Castilleja School (Palo Alto) **2nd Place:** Team 366: The Anti Plastic Cheezy Scuba Bubs, Hillview School (Menlo Park) **3rd Place:** Team 13: Aquanauts, Lawson Middle School (Cupertino)

Most Reliable: Team 36: Inception From Challenger, Harker, and Kennedy (San Jose)

Most Efficient: Team 43: Ocean Ninjas From Challenger School (San Jose)

Most Sustainable: Team 329: Lifeguards (Saratoga)

Most Resourceful use of materials: Team 122: The Green Hydras, Bowditch Middle School (Foster City)

Most Innovative Design: Team 214: Knights Who Say Ni, Bowditch Middle School (Foster City)

Best Teamwork: Team 123: Protect Our Pacific Ocean (P.O.P.O), Discovery Charter School (San Jose)

Best Verbal Presentation: Team 115: Hexpi, Jordan Middle School (Palo Alto)

Best Costume: Team 114: San Jose Sea Janitors, (Redwood City)

Best Journal: Team 220: Robo Sapiens, Kennedy Middle School (Cupertino)

Most Outstanding Cheer: Team 706: White Sand Beaches, Kennedy Middle School (Cupertino)

Outstanding Professionalism: Team 356: S.O.S. (Save Our Seas), Redwood Middle School and Kennedy Middle School (Saratoga)

The Fast and Furious Award: Team 207: The Seakers (Sunnyvale)

Greatest Distance Traveled: Team 424: Red Hot Chillies, HomeSchool, India

Most Perseverance: Team 58: Organized Chaos, Redwood Middle School (Saratoga)

Greatest Risk Takers: Team 535: Awesomeness, Stanbridge Academy (San Mateo)

Best Team Spirit: Team 91: IDK (Innovative Ductape Kings), Lawson Middle School (Cupertino)

Most Spectacular Failure: Team 340: Super Water Ninjas

Best Team Name: Team 193: Merry merMaids from Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)

Grades 9-12

Best Overall Solution: Grand Prize: Team 132: Cephalopod Saviours, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) **2nd Place:** Team 272: Turn The Tide, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) **3rd Place:** Team 14: Narwhals Trippin' on Trash, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) Device Performance Award

Most Reliable: Team 325: Jersey Shore Cleaners, the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula (Redwood City)

Most Efficient: Team 336: Hungry Hippos, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Most Sustainable: Team 271: The Habitat Heroes, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) Engineering Design Award

Most Resourceful use of materials: Team 321: Chemical Cuties, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Most Innovative Design: Team 323: Ocean Housekeeping, the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula (Redwood City)

Best Teamwork: Team 274: Clean Green Team, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) Style and Presentation Award

Best Verbal Presentation: Team 205: Castaways (Sunnyvale)

Best Costume: Team 710: Gyraffes, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Best Journal: Team 244: Saving Nemo, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) Featured Judges' Choice Awards

Most Creative Computer Programming: Team 154: Potato (San Jose)

Best Prototyping: Team 549: The Trashjackers, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Best Storytellers: Team 92: The Narwhals, San Lorenzo Valley High School (Boudercreek)

Personal Persistence: Team 600: Carissa, Silver Creek High school (San Jose) Inspirational Awards

Most Perseverance: Team 328: Free of Debris, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Greatest Risk Takers: Team 278: Bunsen Burner Babes, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Best Team Spirit: Team 264: Jumping Jellybeans, Cupertino High School (Cupertino) Most Spectacular Failure

Most Spectacular Failure: Team 250: H 2 Awesome, Cupertino High School (Cupertino)

Best Team Name: Team 338: Hydrophobic Fishies From Cupertino High School (Cupertino)