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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Local Students Declared ‘Trig Stars’ in City Competition

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Hempstead High School senior Jeffrey Teng, Dubuque Senior High School sophomore Josh Mauss, and Wahlert High School sophomore Sam Hoelscher were declared “Trig Stars” for their respective high schools for the 2013-2014 academic year during a recent Trig-Star competition administered by the City of Dubuque Engineering Department. Each student received prize money of \$75 from the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa, donated by local contractors and land surveying firms.

Second place winners at each high school were Jiwei Sun at Hempstead, Naomi Brehm at Senior High, and Logan Drake at Wahlert. They received monetary awards of \$25 from local sponsors.

A “Trig Star” is a mathematics student who has demonstrated skill in the practical application of trigonometry. The competition is a timed exercise that involves solving trigonometry problems incorporating the use of right triangle formulas, the law of sines, and the law of cosines. Sixty minutes is allowed for the test competition. Each year, dozens of high schools and hundreds of students compete across the state. State winners qualify to take the national test and a chance to win the top three prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, or \$500, and a trip to the national convention for professional surveyors. This year, 82 students competed in the City of Dubuque competition.

Prior to the competition, the City’s Engineering Department, IIW, P.C., and WHKS & Company worked together to present land surveying topics and procedures to interested

math and calculus students. These presentations expose students to the land surveying profession.

The Trig-Star competition is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors, the Society of Land Surveyors of Iowa, local licensed land surveyors, and area contractors. Local sponsors for this year's competition included Buesing and Associates, Inc.; Connolly Construction, Inc.; IIW. P.C.; Larry Boyer, WHKS & Company.; Lot Lines Etc.; Richard Gansen Excavating, Inc.; and W.C. Stewart Construction.

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