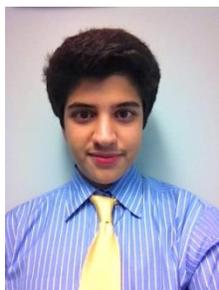


**NORTH DAKOTA STUDENTS WIN 2012-13 SIEMENS AWARDS
FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT****Siemens Foundation Recognizes Vahid Fazel-Rezai of Grand Forks and
Ellie Simonson of Bismarck for STEM Achievement**

ISELIN, NJ, February 6, 2013— Vahid Fazel-Rezai , a junior at Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, NH, and Ellie Simonson, a senior at Century High School in Bismarck, today were named the North Dakota state winners of the 2012-13 Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement, a signature program of the Siemens Foundation administered by the College Board. The awards recognize the nation’s top achievers in Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) with a \$2,000 college scholarship to one male and one female student in each state. Two national winners (one male and one female) are also recognized, each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship. This year, 101 high school students in all 50 states – including 93 seniors and 8 juniors – were honored.

“We commend this year’s Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement winners on their hard work and dedication to STEM subjects, and we thank the teachers, parents and schools who supported their scholarship,” said Jeniffer Harper-Taylor, president of the Siemens Foundation.

“We are proud to join our partners at the Siemens Foundation in recognizing these exceptional students. Today’s award-winners have the foundation to achieve great success in some of today’s most exciting, innovative careers,” said David Coleman, president of the College Board.

**VAHID FAZEL-REZAI****Total AP Courses Taken to Date (all disciplines including STEM): 7****Favorite AP Class:** Computer Science**Advice to other AP students:** Find things that intrigue you and seize them; make a personal connection and understand as deeply as possible.**Proudest Accomplishments:** USAJMO 2011 Winner, Fourth Award at Intel ISEF 2011**Plans for College Study:** Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics or Aeronautics**Anticipated Career:** Research in mathematics, computer science or physics**Favorite nonacademic pursuits:** Playing soccer, biking and coaching younger students

in math

**ELLIE SIMONSON****Total AP Courses Taken to Date (all disciplines including STEM): 6****Favorite AP Class:** Calculus BC**Advice to other AP students:** Go for your dreams and don’t be afraid to take risks!**Proudest Accomplishments:** Learning and living as a foreign exchange student in France; competing at National MathCounts; overcoming eye muscle spasms to finally be able to read as a fourth grader**Plans for College Study:** Physics**Anticipated Career:** Astronautical engineer**Favorite nonacademic pursuits:** Performing with Bismarck’s Strolling Strings and the city’s youth symphony; volunteering with Child Evangelism Fellowship; taking part in Century Math Team

The Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement

Established in 1998, the Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement (http://www.siemens-foundation.org/en/advanced_placement.htm) awards \$2,000 college scholarships to students from each of the 50 states who have earned the greatest number of scores of 5 on exams in the following AP® courses: Biology, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Science A, Environmental Science, Statistics, Physics C Mechanics and Physics C Electricity and Magnetism. Each state potentially has two winners, one male and one female.

For complete information and photos of this year's Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement winners, please visit: <http://www.multivu.com/mnr/60242-siemens-foundation-award-students-for-advanced-placement-exceptional-stem>

The Siemens Foundation

The Siemens Foundation provides more than \$7 million annually in support of educational initiatives in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in the United States. Its signature programs include the Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology, Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement, and The Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, which encourages K-12 students to develop innovative green solutions for environmental issues. By supporting outstanding students today, and recognizing the teachers and schools that inspire their excellence, the Foundation helps nurture tomorrow's scientists and engineers. The Foundation's mission is based on the culture of innovation, research and educational support that is the hallmark of Siemens' U.S. companies and its parent company, Siemens AG. For more information, visit www.siemens-foundation.org. Follow the Siemens Foundation on Twitter [@SFoundation](https://twitter.com/SFoundation) and Facebook at [SiemensFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/SiemensFoundation).

The College Board

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of more than 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than seven million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success — including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program®. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools. For further information, visit www.collegeboard.org.

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