2010 Winners

1st Place Contrived

1st Place Natural

2nd Place Contrived

3rd Place Contrived

Honorables Contrived

Honorables Natural

Special Recognition Multi

About the Contest

Path: www.vernier.com:1080/sites/default/files/aapt.org/assets/pdf/borders/border.png

1st Place Contrived

Slap Shot, Joshua John Garcia  
Kusa High School, Kuna, ID  
Teacher: DeNel Huggins

Using a high-speed camera, the instant of a hand slapping a stomach was captured. This activity caused a shockwave that originated as the hand moved into the stomach. This shock wave is in the shape of the hand. It was created by the transfer of energy from the hand to the stomach and moved across the torso of the body.

1st Place Natural

Light on Water, Erika Lynn Laman  
West Boca Raton Community High School  
Boca Raton, FL  
Teacher: Maria Aparicio

When light travels from one medium into another of different refractive index, it bends. The scattered reflection and can cause an object that is under water to appear larger and closer than it is in air.

2nd Place Contrived

Connecting Branches, Brittany Illana Fader  
West Boca Raton Community High School  
Boca Raton, FL  
Teacher: Maria Aparicio

I took this photo near sunset, standing at the side of a lake in Florida. I zoomed in on the tree and its reflection so that no other objects were in the picture. The lake acts as plane mirror and a virtual image is created that has the same size as the tree.

3rd Place Contrived

Slap Shot, Joshua John Garcia  
Kusa High School, Kuna, ID  
Teacher: DeNel Huggins

Using a high-speed camera, the instant of a hand slapping a stomach was captured. This activity caused a shockwave that originated as the hand moved into the stomach. This shock wave is in the shape of the hand. It was created by the transfer of energy from the hand to the stomach and moved across the torso of the body.

Honorables Contrived

Natalie Colette Hummel  
Archer School for Girls  
Los Angeles, CA  
Teacher: Helen Reese

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The Essence of Dance, Samantha Lynn Birk  
Cherry Creek High School, Greenwood Village, CO  
Teacher: Richard Shapiro

The essence of dance is beauty. You can see how the dancer is working to make the photo last longer. The dancer is moving in a circle; the forces (along with the dance) allow for the dancer to maintain her balance. In this photo, I am spinning in a circle; the forces (along with the dance) allow for the dancer to maintain her balance. In this photo, I am spinning in a circle; the forces (along with the dance) allow for the dancer to maintain her balance.

Special Recognition Multi

The Life of a Drop, Amanda Brown  
Capital High School, Colorado Springs, CO  
Teacher: Kevin Sweeney

This photo was taken of a bursting water balloon demonstrates effects of elastic forces and the law of inertia. The deflated balloon, stretched by the water inside it, is under tension. When it is popped, it tears and the balloon is under pressure.

Special Recognition Multi

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West Boca Raton Community High School  
Boca Raton, FL  
Teacher: Maria Aparicio

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AAPT organizes a High School Physics Photo Contest. Physics students around the world are challenged to submit a photo illustrating a physics concept. The students are required to take an original photo and include a written summary of the physics occurring in the photo. The photos shown here were judged at the 2010 AAPT Summer Meeting in Portland, Oregon. See the top 100 and check for upcoming information about next year’s contest online at aapt.org/programs/contest/photocontest.cfm.

AAPT thanks Vernier Software & Technology, Inc. for their generous support of the photo contest.