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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Peace Essay Contest Winners Announced

Santa Barbara, CA (December 7, 2004) – The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2004 Swackhamer Peace Essay Contest. Established in 1985, the contest serves to encourage high school students worldwide to think about and contribute to creating a more peaceful, just and secure world. Winners receive a total of \$3,000 in prizes. The theme for this year’s contest was: “If you were invited to give a nationally televised speech to the American people, including the President and the Congress, what would you say to convince them that the United States should take a leadership role in the global elimination of nuclear weapons?”

This year, first place was awarded to **Emma Thompsell** for her essay entitled, *America Must Lead the World in Nuclear Disarmament*. “The world is a much riskier place with nuclear weapons. It is up to America, as the most powerful nation that this world has ever seen, to show that its political and military pre-eminence is matched by moral leadership. America must lead the world in nuclear disarmament,” writes Emma in her essay.

Emma is a student at the Westminster School in London, UK. Her extracurricular activities include playing the violin and viola, writing for the School Magazine, and acting in school plays. In addition, she is involved in the Model United Nations and the Debating Society at her school. A very active 16 year-old, Emma finds time to volunteer in her community, ski, and play squash.

A graduate of Lynbrook High School in San Jose, California, **Angela Du** was awarded second place for her essay entitled, “Hope for Survival.” Angela is a first year student at Stanford University. She transitioned from her award winning high school Mock Trial team to a defense lawyer position on the Stanford Mock Trial team.

Magali Carett was awarded third place for her essay entitled, "Making Peace." Magali is in her first semester at Boston University. While in high school, she was co-president of the anti-landmines club and active in the Global Lifeguards club.

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan international organization with consultative status to the United Nations. For more than 20 years, the Foundation has been committed to advancing initiatives to eliminate the nuclear weapons threat to all life, to fostering the global rule of law, and to building an enduring legacy of peace through education and advocacy.

For more information regarding the 2004 Swackhamer Peace Essay Contest and read the essays in their entirety, please visit:

<http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/awards-&-contests/swack-contest/2004-winners.htm> or contact the Foundation's offices at (805) 965-3443.

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