



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NSBE JR. OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TEN80 TEAM TAKES  
FIRST PLACE IN AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE CHALLENGE AT THE  
48th NSBE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ANAHEIM**

[ANAHEIM, CA] Today, while attending the 48th National Convention of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), a team of students from the NSBE Jr. of Southern California Chapter won First Place in the Ten80 Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Challenge.

With sponsorship from Northrop Grumman, these scholars were able to compete in Ten80's AV Challenge where students integrate electrical, mechanical, and computer systems to meet a series of challenges that parallel AV operations on our neighborhood streets and highways or in remote areas of land, sea, and space. In addition to the Grand Prize, the NSBE Jr. of Southern California Ten80 Team also won:

- 2nd Place - Enterprise Overall
- 2nd Place - Team Promotional Video
- 2nd Place - Team Presentation
- 3rd Place - Design

“We are honored to have the support of companies like Northrop Grumman because it demonstrates their commitment to a diverse community of future engineers, mathematicians, and inventors,” said Christine Wood, Lead Advisor, NSBE Jr. of Southern California. For more information, see the attached AV Challenge Overview, or visit <https://www.ten80education.com>.

On Thursday, March 24, 2022, scholars from the Southern California chapter of NSBE Jr. met youth from across the country at the Anaheim Hilton to attend the National Convention, where the theme is “Inspiring Engineers.” These scholars are attending NSBE’s Pre-Collegiate Initiative Track, where they are exposed to activities and projects that inspire them to enter a pipeline to technical careers. Such workshops include *Design, Brand and Sell Your Own Board Game*; *NSBE Jr. SharkTank Compshop*; & *Aerospace Engineering*. The conference will conclude on Saturday after the youth enjoy a day at Disneyland and attend NSBE’s annual Sneaker Ball.

With more than 500 chapters and 16,000 members in the U.S. and abroad, NSBE is one of the largest student-governed organizations based in the United States. NSBE’s mission is “to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.”



**NSBE Jr. of Southern California's Ten80 Team**

**Back Row** (l to r): **Elian Vilchez** (Vistamar HS, El Segundo); **Ajanai Campbell** (Orville Wright Gifted Magnet, LA); **Serenity Simpson** (Mark Twain MS, LA); **Kassen Thomas** (University HS, LA); **Christian Parkinson** (DaVinci Connect HS, El Segundo); **Fernando Del Cerro** (CAMS, Carson); **Nahshon Cannad** (DaVinci Communications HS, El Segundo)

**Middle Row** (l to r): **Solomon Cannad** (Dana MS, Hawthorne)

**Front Row** (l to r): **Jarett Moore** (New Roads School, Santa Monica); **Amanda Wood** (Vistamar HS, El Segundo); **Caleb Johnson** (Westchester Lutheran MS); **Andres Del Cerro** (CAMS, Carson)

**Not Pictured:** **Lucas Boze** (Hamilton HS, LA); **Dawni Daniels** (Westside Neighborhood School, LA)

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