

STHS students place 3rd at international forestry competition

South Tahoe High School seniors Emily Barnett and Tyler Myers took third place at the 9th annual International Junior Foresters' Competition in Russia.

Their field research project The Effects of Fire and Forest Thinning on the Biodiversity of Understory Plants in the Lake Tahoe Basin was one of 52 projects presented by students from around the world.

The students were honored during a large concert celebrating Day of the Forest Worker in Moscow, during which the head of the Russian Federal Forestry Agency, V.N. Maslyakov, presented their prizes.

The competition, which was Sept. 12-14, 2012, is hosted by the Russian Federal Forestry Agency. This annual event brings together youth from nations around the world to promote and reward young scientists for their interest and efforts in the environmental field and encourage international dialogue concerning forestry issues.

This was the first time the United States participated in the competition.

Barnett and Myers' project grew out of their participation in the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit's Youth Conservation Corps.