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INDIANA TEEN WINS DRIVE SAFE CHICAGO CONTEST WITH HIS VIDEO ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SPEEDING

CHICAGO, Feb. 6, 2026 – **Alphonso Royal**, 18, a student at Merrillville High School in Merrillville, IN, has won the 12th annual Drive Safe Chicago public service announcement contest, sponsored by the National Road Safety Foundation in partnership with the Chicago Auto Show. He received a \$2,000 prize, and his winning 30-second video will be featured on the nationally syndicated Teen Kids News, broadcast on more than 160 TV stations.

A video by Gideon Priest, a student at the Career Academy in Ft. Wayne, IN, won the \$1,000 second prize, and Aidan Luskey, 16, of Merrillville (IN) High School won the \$500 third prize. All three videos were posted on the Chicago Auto Show's Facebook page, and the public cast votes for their favorite. Royal got nearly two-thirds of the 2,340 votes that were cast.

“Carnage on our roads can be reduced with some common courtesy and obeying speed limits,” said Michelle Anderson of The National Road Safety Foundation, a non-profit organization that promotes safe driving. “We believe the creative messages from our Drive Safe Chicago winners will encourage drivers to slow down and respect speed limits,” NHTSA reports that speed is a factor in 29 percent of all fatal crashes, killing 11,775 people in crashes in 2023, with hundreds of thousands of injuries and an estimated annual cost in the billions.

“Today’s new cars are safer than ever, with technological advances that are proven to help avoid crashes,” said Chicago Auto Show Chairwoman Kelly Webb Roberts, “but drivers must still be aware of and respect speed limits so everyone can arrive safely.”

All three winning videos can be seen at <https://m.shortstack.page/jM2v24>

For more information on the Drive Safe Chicago contest, visit: www.nrsf.org/contests/drive-safe-chicago.

About The National Road Safety Foundation, Inc. (NRSF), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization founded more than 60 years ago, produces traffic safety programs on distracted driving, speed and aggression, impaired driving, drowsy driving, driver proficiency, pedestrian safety, and a host of other safety issues. It distributes the programs free of charge to schools, police, and traffic safety advocates, community groups, and individuals. It also sponsors contests to engage teens in promoting safe driving to their peers and in their communities. For more information or to download free programs, visit www.nrsf.org.

About the Chicago Auto Show: First staged in 1901, the Chicago Auto Show is the nation's longest-running auto exposition in North America. The show is produced by the Chicagoland new-car dealer association, the Chicago Automobile Trade Association, which has staged the show since 1935. The 2026 public show will be Feb. 7-16, 2026, at McCormick Place. For more information and the latest updates, visit ChicagoAutoShow.com or Facebook.com/ChicagoAutoShow.com.