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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 20, 2005

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WINNERS NAMED IN FIFTH ANNUAL CATS POSTER CONTEST

CHICAGO -- The Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) has announced the winners of its fifth annual K-6 Poster Contest. Coinciding with the celebration of National Transportation Week (May 15-21), the contest winners will be honored at a ceremony to be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, May 20, at the John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

This year, 2,040 elementary school students from 79 Chicago and suburban elementary schools submitted entries for the contest, the theme of which was "Keep it Moving...Keep It Safe." The 15 posters selected as winners will illustrate the 2006 CATS calendar. They will also be featured on the CATS Website: www.catsmpo.com.

Contest winners, their grade, school name and location, and their teachers' names are as follows:

Daniel Alfonzo, Grade 6, St. James the Apostle School, Glen Ellyn; Mrs. Carroll.

Evan Boone-Lewis, Grade 2, A.N. Pritzker Elementary School, Chicago; Ms. Gustafson.

Danny Conrad, Grade 6, Immaculate Conception School, Chicago; Ms. Kononelos.

Marisa Dion, Grade 4, St. Dennis School, Lockport; Mrs. Sheehan.

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Louis Edaño, Grade 6, St. Gerald School, Oak Lawn; Mrs. Woulfe.

Kayla Gallegos, Grade 5, St. John the Evangelist School, Streamwood; Mrs. Fogarty.

Jacqueline Ghoston, Grade 6, D.S. Wentworth School, Chicago; Ms. Nobles.

Sofia Gnabasik, Grade 4, Alcuin Montessori School, Oak Park; Ms. Martin.

Jasmin Gonzalez, Grade 5, Burnham Elementary School, Burnham; Ms. Kaymark.

Ulises Lopez, Grade 5, Winfield Central School, Winfield; Ms. Kueker.

Emily Madden, Grade 1, Our Lady of Destiny School, Des Plaines; Ms. Guskiewicz.

Cali McLoughlin, Grade 3, Oriole Park Elementary School, Chicago; Mrs. Allen.

Natalie Novak, Grade 1, Saints Peter and Paul School, Cary; Mrs. Tasch.

Kamryn Scott, Kindergarten, St. Sabina Academy, Chicago; Ms. Coleman.

Tiera Sterling, Grade 3, Lincoln Avenue School, Dolton; Mrs. Toune.

The poster contest is designed to showcase the creative abilities of children, while also fostering discussions about transportation issues between them and their parents and teachers. The awards ceremony is held during National Transportation Week, a time set aside for local communities and the transportation community to join together for greater awareness about the importance of transportation.

"This contest represents a first opportunity for kids to become

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involved with the transportation planning process," said Jock Hardy, CATS communications director. "We hope their curiosity will be piqued enough to keep them involved as they get older."

Sponsors of the 2005 CATS K-6 Poster Contest include the Adler Planetarium, the Chicago Historical Society, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Loews Cineplex Theatres, Pace Suburban Bus Service, the John G. Shedd Aquarium and United Parcel Service.

The Chicago Area Transportation Study is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for northeastern Illinois, designated by state and local officials to carry out the urban transportation planning process for the region. The area covered by CATS includes all of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties, plus a portion of Kendall County.

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