



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04.25.18

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## Hidalgo Early College Students Win Regional Texas Citizen Bee Competition

Most people know about the Roaring 20's, but do they know how the times brought about economic prosperity and new social norms to America? Can you give an example of a program instituted by President Franklin Roosevelt to provide relief to those impacted by the Depression? Do you know what Supreme Court Case was significant in the struggle for equal protection of the laws for Hispanics?

Probably not, but a deeper understanding of American History by **Karina Cavazos (1<sup>st</sup> Place)** and **Adela Castillo (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)** both are students at Hidalgo Early College High School, earned these high school students top honors in the Annual Regional Citizen Bee Competition hosted by Region One ESC in early April. Karina Cavazos and her sponsor Mr. Domingo Ganno will travel to Austin to participate in the State Texas Citizen Bee State Competition on April 28, at the Texas Law Center in Austin, Texas. Both participants earned scholarships, \$125 and \$75 for first and second place finishes, respectively. Scholarships were donated by local attorney, Joshua Caldwell.

The Texas Citizen Bee is a statewide civic education program and competition which offers teachers and high school students in grades 9-12 an exciting way to reach and study America's heritage. The event enhances student understanding of the cultural and political history, geography, economics and current events involved in American History.

"The Texas Citizen Bee competition is a fun way to get students involved in studying American History at a deeper level. Aside from bragging rights, the students take away so much more that will last them a lifetime; an increased awareness of American history and the democratic process," explains J.J. Saenz, Region One ESC Social Studies Specialist.

To prepare for the competition students use an on-line "Study Guide" program created by the Bill of Rights Institute which covers the U.S. Constitution, important documents, people, issues, civic values and skills and a Bill of Rights Institute article/current events category.

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Region One Education Service Center ([www.esc1.net](http://www.esc1.net)) serves over 431,000 students and educators in seven counties in south Texas including Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, Willacy and Zapata counties. Region One works to assist school districts in improving student performance, assist districts to operate more efficiently and economically, and implement initiatives assigned by the legislature or the Commissioner of Education.