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Missouri Teens Wins Second Place in Song Contest Against Distracted Driving

HANNIBAL –Kori Caswell, 17, from Hannibal High School, won second place in a national Ford song contest that involved 520,000 public votes and final judging from Shawn Wilson, president of Usher's New Look Foundation. Caswell received a \$3,000 savings bond.

The public selected the five finalists on www.drivingskillsforlife.com from among videos by teen musicians performing original songs, and Wilson chose the first, second and third-place winners. Distracted driving was the theme for the 2011 Ford Driving Skills for Life "Belt It Out" contest. Caswell's song "On the Road, You Can Make Or Break Your Dreams," shared an important safe driving message: keep both hands on the wheel, face straight forward, and turn your cell phone off.

Caswell was honored by MoDOT and the Northeast Regional Blueprint Committee at Hannibal's Music Under the Stars event. She was presented with a simulated album cover that included a picture of her with her guitar and the song listed on the cover.

Distracted driving is the leading cause of traffic crashes in Missouri and nationwide. For more information, visit saveMOlives.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Caswell is available to be interviewed by calling her at 573-629-9613.

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