



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Local students win Restore the Balance poster contest**

Duluth, MN – Great Lakes Aquarium, Minnesota Sea Grant and the 2008 Minnesota Invasive Species Conference are pleased to announce the winners of the Restore the Balance poster contest. The poster contest geared toward middle and high school students was one of several youth events held in conjunction with the research and management focused conference. Contest winners were selected from over two hundred entries featuring species of plants and animals native to Minnesota. Conference organizers view familiarizing youth with native species as an integral important part of teaching people about the impacts of invasive species on our region. Entries were on display throughout the conference. Prizes were awarded to contest winners at the conference awards luncheon on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place – Alex Mackey, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Cloquet Middle School; 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Breanna Keith, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Cloquet Middle School; 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Ashley Herman, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Ordean Middle School. To see images of the winning entries or for more information on the 2008 Minnesota Invasive Species Conference visit [www.minnesotaswcs.org](http://www.minnesotaswcs.org).

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