

#####

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2014

#####

ReadySetGrad.org nominated for “Best Education Website” in the 18th Annual Webby Awards

Olympia—ReadySet.Grad.org – Washington State’s comprehensive career and college readiness website for 6th grade through continuing education students, their families, and educators – is nominated for the “Best Education Website” Webby Award. Hailed as the “Internet’s highest honor” by *The New York Times*, the Webby Awards is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet. The awards are presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS).

ReadySetGrad.org, administered by the Washington Student Achievement Council, is the state’s go-to web resource for information about academic requirements, college readiness standards, and financial aid programs. The award-nominated site includes videos, interactive features, text messaging, and social media integration. Students can even fill out interactive grade-by-grade checklists and take notes on websites pages, which can be saved in email and updated as information changes.

"Nominees like ReadySetGrad.org are setting the standard for innovation and creativity on the Internet," said **David-Michel Davies, Executive Director of The Webby Awards**. "It is an incredible achievement to be selected among the best from the 12,000 entries we received this year."

As a nominee, ReadySetGrad.org is also eligible to win a Webby People's Voice Award, which is voted for online by fans across the globe. From now until April 24, ReadySetGrad.org fans can cast their votes at <http://pv.webbyawards.com/2014/web/general-website/education>.

The IADAS, which nominates and selects The Webby Award Winners, is comprised of web industry experts, including media mogul **Arianna Huffington**, Skype CEO **Tony Bates**, Mozilla CEO and Chair **Mitchell Baker**, Instagram co-founder **Kevin Systrom**, mobile-phone inventor **Martin Cooper**, and creator of the Jif **Steve Wilhite**.

Winners will be announced on Tuesday, April 29, and honored at a May 19 ceremony in New York.

#####

Contact:

Emily Persky (media@wsac.wa.gov)
Communications Program Manager

360.753.7817

About the Washington Student Achievement Council: Established as a new cabinet-level state agency on July 1, 2012, the Council provides strategic planning, oversight, and advocacy to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington. The Council proposes improvements and innovations to meet the evolving needs of students, employers, and the educational community. In recognition of the economic, social, and civic benefits of public education, the Council advocates for increased financial support and civic commitment to ensure a thriving Washington.

The nine-member Council includes five citizens (including a current student) and one representative from each of Washington's four major educational sectors. Find us online at www.wsac.wa.gov, on Twitter [@WSACouncil](https://twitter.com/WSACouncil), and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WSACouncil.

About ReadySetGrad.org

ReadySetGrad.org is Washington's only comprehensive career and college readiness website. With content developed specifically for students in 6th grade through college, ReadySetGrad.org is a one-stop resource for all Washington students and families. The website is a project of the Washington Student Achievement Council, made possible by federal grant funding from the GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) and College Access Challenge Grant programs. Find us online at www.readysetgrad.org, on Twitter [@Ready_Set_Grad](https://twitter.com/Ready_Set_Grad), and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ReadySetGrad.

About The Webby Awards

Hailed as the "Internet's highest honor" by The New York Times, The Webby Awards is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet, including Websites, Interactive Advertising & Media, Online Film & Video, Mobile & Apps, and Social. Established in 1996, The Webby Awards received nearly 12,000 entries from all 50 states and over 60 countries worldwide this year. The Webby Awards is presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS). Sponsors and Partners of The Webby Awards include: Microsoft, Dell, Vitamin T, MailChimp, Engine Yard, Funny or Die, AdAge, Percolate, Mashable, Business Insider, Internet Week New York and Guardian News and Media.