



Newsletter

**The 2023 Nautical Skills Competition
Master Mariners of Canada (MMC)
NL Division**



The 11th annual [Nautical Skills Competition \(NSC\)](#) was hosted by the [Master Mariners of Canada \(MMC\)](#), ([N.L. Division](#)), in collaboration with the Fisheries and Marine Institute (MI). The event ran from 1700 to 2030 on Friday, March 3rd, 2023 and continued on Saturday, March 4th, from 0800 to 1700. at the Marine Institute's Ridge Road campus in St. John's, NL. A reception followed at 1830 and then a Gala Awards Dinner at 1930. Both held at the Marine Institute cafeteria.

Using 5 state-of-the-art marine simulators, 4 from MI and 1 from local company Virtual Marine, the competition included 7 challenging exercises (5 simulation based and 2 non-simulation based) designed to test the knowledge and ability of Nautical Science students. The competition looked to promote the maritime sector, encourage team building and professionalism, and foster a safety culture.

The NSC started in 2012, as a way for the Master Mariners of Canada (NL Division) to mentor and reach out to the younger generation of upcoming seafarers. Over the past decade, it has become one of the flagship events in the Division's annual calendar. It has also become a way to engage the maritime industry, locally nationally, and internationally through sponsorship and participation. Industry support helps facilitate the event and enables the MMC to promote leadership, strong work ethic, diversity, and inclusion with any new person entering the nautical field.

“The success and growth of the Nautical Skills Competition, over the last 11 years, can be attributed to the teamwork of the NSC planning committee,” said Capt. Eben March, MMC Divisional Master and founding member of the NSC planning committee. “It has been remarkable to watch it expand over the years to where

it is today, and we are focused on introducing it to the national and international level over the next couple of years.”

Forty three Nautical Science students demonstrated their skills to veteran master mariners from the Newfoundland and Labrador region. Twenty three Canadian maritime companies supporting the competition, providing opportunities for cadets to interact with the region’s most experienced mariners. Ten high school students, 9 from across Newfoundland and Labrador and 1 from Nova Scotia, also participated in the event. Contributing to the Master Mariners of Canada’s mandate to promote the marine profession to younger generations.



Captain Jim Thorpe

The 1st place winners of the NSC are presented with a plaque named in honour of Captain Jim Thorpe (R. James Thorpe), who was a member of the Master Mariners of Canada (NL Division) and a valuable mentor to the Marine Institute’s Nautical Science cadets. Captain Thorpe’s passion for student success was palpable as he proved to be a valuable source of information for the cadet technical reports. He was often found volunteering at the school, sharing memories of his own cadet and sailing experiences with the students. The plaque honours the memory of this lifelong respected and professional mariner.

Captain Jim Thorpe was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, a son of a sailing family, all of whom were active in the Housatonic Boat Club, the oldest yacht club in the state of Connecticut. An avid Yachtsman, he attended Maine Maritime Academy, where he was involved with sailing and club activities. Jim sailed the world with American Export Isbrandtsen Lines as Deck Officer and Navigation Officer, obtaining a USCG license of Master, any gross tons. He also held a distinction of having served on the NS Savannah, the first and one of the few ever built, commercial nuclear powered ships.

Jim retired to Newfoundland with his family. He collaborated with the Master Mariners of Canada, among other projects. Jim was a mariner of the old school, a community builder, and a loving family man with an active circle of friends. His legacy remains an inspiration to young and seasoned mariners alike. Captain Thorpe passed away in January 2009 in St. John’s, NL.

At the first Nautical Skills Competition held in 2012, his wife Dawna Vivian and his son Lydon Thorpe presented the 1st Place Award in his honour.

The 2023 NSC video will be posted on the Newfoundland Division section of the MMC website. <https://www.mastermariners.ca/divisions/newfoundland-division/nautical-skills-competition/#>

The Sponsors

MASTER MARINER LEVEL



ATLANTIC TOWING



CHIEF OFFICER LEVEL



SECOND OFFICER LEVEL



THIRD OFFICER LEVEL



This year, the NSC had 23 sponsors and they contributed \$49,250, in support of the event. The Master Mariner Level sponsors, Atlantic Towing and Algoma Central Corporation, each contributed \$5,000.

Nautical Skills 2023

COMPETITION

THANK YOU
TO OUR
SPONSORS!





MASTER MARINER LEVEL




ATLANTIC TOWING

CHIEF OFFICER LEVEL














SECOND OFFICER LEVEL





THIRD OFFICER LEVEL











The Company of Master Mariners of Canada, NL Division, would like to thank the sponsors for the support they have provided for the Nautical Skills Competition. Without your financial support, the competition would not be possible. **Once again THANK YOU, to all the sponsors.**

The Venue



2023 Group Photo, including Students, Judges and Volunteers.

THANK YOU, to the Marine Institute. For once again hosting the competition.

The Teams

Team 1 – Ship ‘N’ Ships

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Morgan Byrne | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Matthew Gibbons | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Zach Crane | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Patrick Duff | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Grace Lydon | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Brock Tulk | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Colby Young | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |

Team 2 – Not Under Command

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Ryan Pike | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Emily Galway | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Henry Ouellon | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Cameron Pelley | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Nicholas Spearns | 2nd Year Nautical Science |

Team 3 – Deep Ship

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pacey Griffin | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Emmanuelle Joyce Ngom | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Richard Whittle | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Amber Jones | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Hayley North | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Dominic Tremblay | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Liam Doyle | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |
| Andre Simoes Re | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |

Team 4 – Popeye’s Posse

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jordan Mercer | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Samuel Pope | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Adrian Sparkes | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Brady Synard | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Bradley Barker | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Mitchell Murphy | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Christopher Rafuse | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |
| Jared Slade | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |

Team 5 – Fleet of Gear

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tahjae Boyd | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Ugur Batuhan Duran | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Noah Robinson | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Joseph Curtis | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Tyler Sheppard | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Julia Young | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Riley Collier | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |
| Victoria Gillett | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |

Team 6 – Seal Team 6

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Hayden Landa | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Dylan Pumphrey | 1st Year Nautical Science |
| Scott Brown | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Caleb Connors | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Logan Rennie | 2nd Year Nautical Science |
| Billy Patey | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |
| Michael Tulk | 3rd/4th Year Nautical Science |

High School Students

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Ryan Burry | Marystown Central High School |
| Avery Decker | Fogo Island Central Academy |
| Eric Ford | Fogo Island Central Academy |
| Jonah Goodyear | Pearson Academy |
| Morgan Hackett | Marystown Central High School |
| Robert Hodge | St. Lawrence Academy |
| Daniel Jackson | Crescent Collegiate |
| Logan Knee | Gonzaga High School |
| Fayth Reynolds | Carbonear Collegiate |
| Natalie Whynot | Northeast Kings Educational Centre |

The Volunteers

| Name | Role |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Captain Richard Edwards | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Sheldon Anstey | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Ray Dalton | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Adam Regular | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Scott Rideout | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Drew McNeil | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Brad Fudge | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Phil Lind | Judge Member MMC |
| Nathan Mullins | Judge Member MMC |
| Captain Troy Nolan | Judge |
| Captain Morgan Pendergast | Judge |
| Captain Samantha Strowbridge | Judge Member MMC |
| Dan Fournier | Judge |
| Captain Jim Parsons | Judge Member MMC |
| Dawn Patten | Judge Virtual Marine |
| Maria Halfyard | NSC Coordinator Honorary Member MMC |
| Jennifer Howell | NSC Coordinator Associate Member MMC |
| Captain Anthony Patterson | Exercise Lead Member MMC |
| Captain Chris Hearn | Exercise Lead Member MMC |
| Captain Kent Waddleton | Exercise Lead |
| Captain Glenn Fiander | Exercise Lead Member MMC |
| Captain Victor March | Exercise Lead |
| Captain Eben March | Exercise Lead Member MMC |
| Elizabeth Clouter | Marine Institute Honorary Member MMC |
| Dr. Angie Clarke | Marine Institute |
| Kimberley Thornhill | Marine Institute |
| Kate Saunders | Marine Institute |
| Hayley Perry | Marine Institute |
| Bernie Brockerville | Marine Institute |
| Leah Curnew | Marine Institute |
| Shelby Fudge | Marine Institute |
| Allie Guerra | Marine Institute |
| Mackenzie Luff | Marine Institute |
| Frocy Labrador | Virtual Marine |
| Gabriel Dufresne | Virtual Marine |
| Alex Phillips | Virtual Marine |

THANK YOU, to all the volunteers. Without your dedication and hard work, the competition would not be possible.

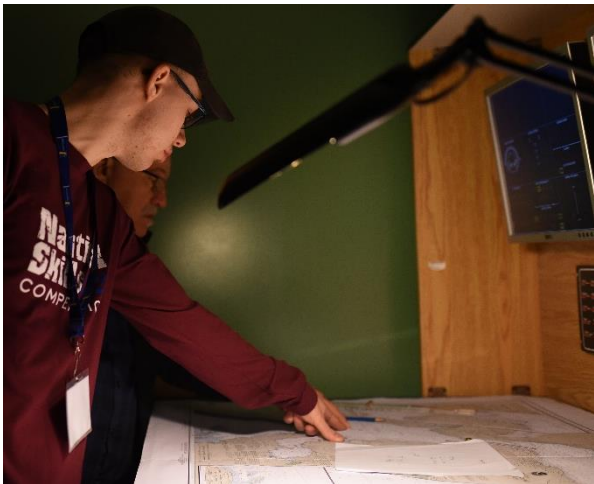
A special THANK YOU, to our 2 event coordinators, Maria Halfyard and Jennifer Howell. Without you organizing all the elements and keeping everything (and everyone) on track, the competition would not have been the great success that it was.

The Competition

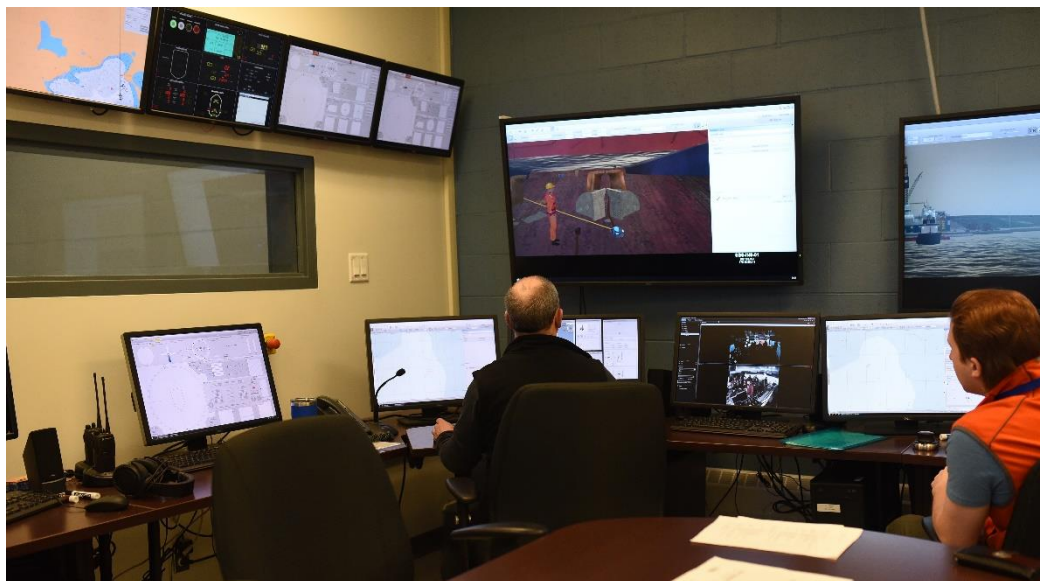
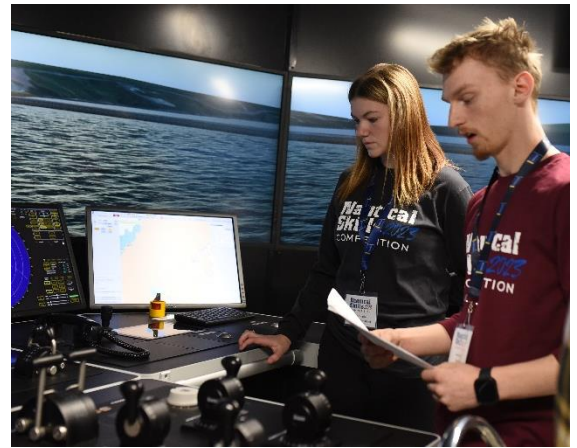
Dynamic Positioning (DP) Exercise. Using multi-purpose support vessel (MSV), participants departed a dock in St. John's harbour and steamed through the Narrows. After a short transit, to Freshwater Bay, the vessel was set up on DP. Using DP, the vessel was moved to a position where the it was to commence a cable lay operation.



Emergency Management Exercise. Participants were given a situation where they were onboard a tanker and received a Mayday from a vessel in distress. They were operating in ice infested waters and had to transit, to the position of the vessel in distress, as quickly and as safely as possible.



Emergency Towing Exercise. Participants had to maneuver an anchor handling supply vessel alongside a semi-submersible drilling rig, at a berth in Marystown. After connecting a towing bridle, the rig was towed to a deep water site in the bay. A harbour tug was available to assist, as required.



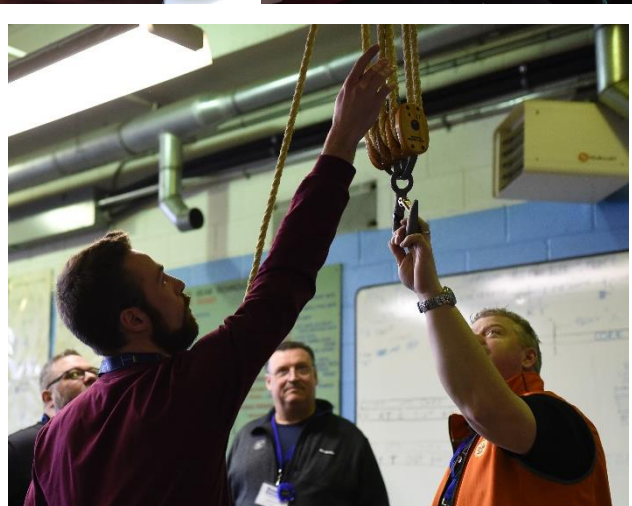
Seamanship Exercise (five sections).

Participants encoded and decoded messages using the signal flags of the International Code of Signals. They had to tie a heaving line knot (monkey fist), attach it to a heaving line and throw the heaving line through the center of a life ring.

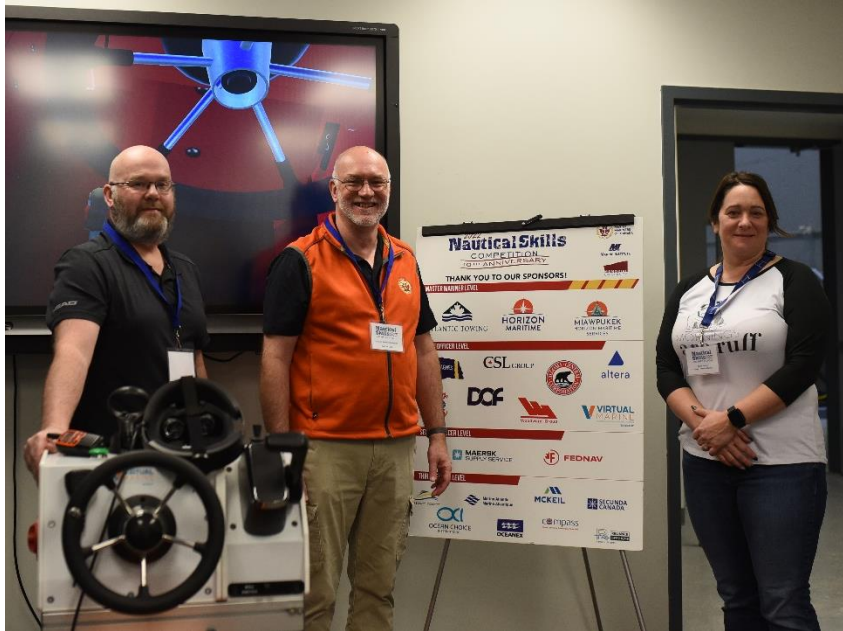
They had to demonstrate various knots, bends, hitches and splices and the proper use of various mooring line stoppers.

They had to assemble items for working aloft or over the ship's side, rig various purchases and discuss/demonstrate the use of this equipment.

They had to identify various light and shape displays.



Search and Rescue Exercise. The exercise was a series of short scenarios where the participants had to demonstrate the core STCW skills demanded of a FRC operator. The participants launched and recovered from a moving ship, searched for and recovered survivors, in the water, to the rescue zone of a ship.



THANK YOU, to Virtual Marine, for the use of its FRC simulator.



Ship Handling and Navigation Exercise. Participants used a single screw tanker, docked Port side to, at exercise start. They were required to manoeuvre the tanker away from the dock and into a turning basin. They were then required to dock the vessel, at a nearby dock, Starboard side to.



Marine Emergency Duties (Team Relay). Held on the Friday evening before the main competition day on Saturday. It was a timed competition where teams competed in pairs. Marks were based on overall time to complete the tasks, with time penalties being incurred for errors in completing the tasks. Marks received counted towards overall team scores for the competition.

Part A: Donning a fire suit/ bunker gear.

Part B: Attach a nozzle to a fire hose /deploy hose.

Part C: Recover rescue manikin to a safe area.

Part D: Don an immersion suit and life jackets

Part E: Throw rescue quoit at a target.



Nautical Skills 2023 COMPETITION



Team 7:

Dr. Paul Brett
Dr. Angie Clarke
Captain Fabian Lambert
Joe Singleton
Kevin Anderson

The teams ran the exercise in pairs. Team 7, a group comprised of Marine Institute managers, also took part. Prior to the start of the exercise, they provided a demonstration for the rest of the participants. **THANK YOU, Team 7.**

The Reception and Gala Dinner

After the competition, a reception and gala awards dinner were held at the Marine Institute cafeteria. The students had an opportunity to meet representatives from the sponsors (potential future employers) and the sponsors had an opportunity to meet with the students (potential future employees). In addition to the representatives of the sponsors, some special guests were also invited:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Dr. Paul Brett Vice President Memorial University (MI) | Marine Institute |
| Dr. Angie Clarke Associate VP (MI), Academic and Student Affairs | Marine Institute |
| Capt. Fabian Lambert Assistant Head, School of Maritime Studies | Marine Institute |



THANK YOU, to the Marine Institute cafeteria staff, for an excellent meal.

The Awards



1st Place, Team 4. Division Master, Captain Eben March, presenting the team with the Captain Jim Thorpe plaque and \$1,000 cheque for each team member. Highest combined score, for all 7 competition events.



2nd Place, Team 2. Division Master, Captain Eben March, presenting the team with \$500 cheque for each team member. Second highest combined score, for all 7 competition events.



3rd Place, Team 6. Division Master, Captain Eben March, presenting the team with \$250 cheque for each team member. Third highest combined score, for all 7 competition events.



Honorable Mention (sponsor Marine Institute). Team 3. Presented by Dr. Paul Brett.

- Team that showed good understanding and performance of most exercises and a commitment toward meeting all objectives.
- Had an overall great attitude.



Leadership Acknowledgement of Excellence (sponsor Fry Foundation Student Leadership Initiative). A \$500 award presented to Colby Young. Presented by Paul Burt.

To quote the Fry Foundation Student Leadership Initiative, “It has been shown that students who began to understand the complexities of leadership at an early stage in their university education were more likely to step forward to take a leadership approach to their own personal and professional development”. This acknowledgement is a reflection of their belief.

- Effectively communicated with team members and demonstrated strong operational group management.
- Consistently exhibited exceptional and dynamic leadership skills by recognizing and harnessing the strengths of each team member in solving the tasks presented.
- Encouraged and maximized group participation and contributed to effective bridge resource management.
- Demonstrated the development of leadership qualities that can be applied at home, in the classroom, at work and in the community.



Ship Manoeuvring Award (sponsors Canship Uglund and NTL). Team 6. Presented by Captain Peter Collins and Natasha Bishop. Award of \$300 for each team member.

- In memory of Captain Brian Bishop.
- Awarded to the team with the highest score in the shiphandling exercise.



Achievement Award in Marine emergency Duties (sponsor Oceanex). Team 3. Presented by Raj Dewan and John Tipton.

- Came first in completing the 5 MED tasks in the proper and safest manner, and with the fastest time.



Achievement Award in Seamanship (sponsor Horizon Maritime). Team 3. Presented by Lonita Judge and John Pendergast.

- The team demonstrated the key traits found in traditional seamanship (rope work, splicing, knots and rigging).
- They executed sound decision-making, teamwork and communication in demonstrating knowledge of visual communications required under Interco, IALA and the ColRegs (such as lights, shapes, flags and signals used in peace time as well as wartime, when radio silence is required).
- Traditional seamanship skills will forever be the baseline for an effective Master.



Teamwork and Leadership Award (sponsor Maersk Supply Service). Team 2. Presented by Captain Chris Tibbo.

- Each individual recognized their role and were able to encourage a cooperative approach to complete the exercise.
- The team demonstrated a high degree of planning and organization collectively and thereby quickly responded to changing conditions.
- The team leader was easily identifiable and, as a role model, communicated and supported feedback from all members of the team in an open and respectful manner, particularly during critical



Safety Award (sponsor Algoma Central). Team 3. Presented by Captain Adam Regular and Dan Fournier.

- The safety briefing was relevant and had a direct bearing on the exercise at hand.
- The team showed an good knowledge of safety practices and/or protocols and the information was relayed accurately.
- The team added creativity and demonstrated originality to relay safety protocols.



Problem Solving Award (sponsor Atlantic Towing). Team 4. Presented by Matthew Sturge.

- The team identified the problem in a timely fashion and communicated to the appropriate team members.
- The team showed analytical and critical thinking skills, to evaluate the problem.
- The team presented a logical and methodical approach, to solve the problem in a safe and effective manner.



Spirit Award (sponsor McKeil Marine). Team 2. Presented by Captain Brad Fudge.

- The team was creative and enthusiastic in their approach to the exercise.
- There was great team camaraderie.
- The team made the overall environment more enjoyable for each other, observers, and the judges.
- The team showed a positive attitude, especially in stressful moments.



Social Media Award (sponsor Marine Institute). Team 3. Presented by Allie Guerra and Leah Curnew.

Each Nautical Skills Competition (NSC) team had to use social media as a way to engage the Master Mariners of Canada (MMC), NSC sponsors and the overall MI/MUN community in the competition. Partners and supporters followed the competition, via social media, and each registered NSC team was requested to add to the excitement. Teams were required to create their own original team name and Instagram account for this challenge and complete a variety of tasks on this social media platform. Team 3 had the highest score in the challenge.

Tuition Award (sponsor Master Mariners of Canada, NL Division). Grade 12 Student, Eric Ford. Captain Eben March presenting a \$1,000 tuition voucher.





Tuition Award (sponsor Master Mariners of Canada, Foundation). Grade 12 Student, Jonah Goodyear. Captain Jim Parsons presenting a \$1,000 tuition voucher. A tuition Award (from the MMC Foundation) was also given to Fayth Reynolds, who wasn't at the awards ceremony.



Participation Award for High School Students (sponsor Siem Offshore). Presented by Captain Ray Dalton.

- Recognition of the 10 high school students that participated in the competition.



The 11th Nautical Skills Competition was a great success. We look forward to the 12th Nautical Skills Competition in 2024. See you next year.