

Mexican students win global award for creativity and innovation



The proposal was developed by first-year students at PrepaTec's Cuernavaca campus, who competed against 77 global projects.

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Elian Pérez

First-year **students** at [PrepaTec Cuernavaca](#) have won “**The Joan Jacobs Creativity Award**” for the most **creative social innovation** in the **2025 Jacobs Teen Innovation Challenge** at the [University of San Diego](#).

The **Well-Spring** project stood out among **proposals** from around the **world** for its **creativity, innovation, and commitment** to **solving** a real problem, **demonstrating** the **power of change driven by young people**.

Through a **prototype app**, their **project** focused on raising **awareness** and **supporting women going through menopause**.

The **Jacobs Challenge** is a **competition** that aims to **empower young people** to become **agents of change** by **addressing pressing social, economic, and environmental issues** in their **communities**.

The Well-Spring prototype

Well-Spring was **designed** as a **tool** to **provide information** about **menopause** and offer **emotional** and **informational support** to **women** with **limited access** to **medical services**.

It **aligns with** the **third [Sustainable Development](#) Goal** of the **United Nations**, which is to ensure **good health** and **wellbeing** for **everyone**.

“This award motivated me to believe in the power of creativity to make an impact on people.” - Denisse Tijera

“Winning this award motivated me to continue believing in the power of creativity to make a real and positive impact on people,” said Denisse Tijera, a student on the multicultural program.

The **prototype** includes ideas such as a **symptom diary**, an anonymous **forum**, **medical articles**, and a **support network**.

This **idea** started as an **extra activity** promoted by **Maria Eugenia Pérez**, a **Health and Society** subject **teacher** in the high school’s **Science Department**.

The **team** includes **PrepaTec Multicultural program students Denisse Tijera, Hanna Martos, Leonardo Sánchez, and Ximena Navarro**.



*This year, more than 7,000 students from 28 different countries participated, with 77 teams presenting projects through a video pitch.
Image: JTIC25 Awards Ceremony. Imagen: JTIC25 Award Ceremony.*

Jacobs Teen Innovation Challenge

Jacobs Teen Innovation Challenge

The [Jacobs Teen Innovation Challenge](#) is a **global** virtual **competition** **organized** by the **University of San Diego** in partnership with the [Pactful](#) educational innovation program, targeting **young people aged 13 to 18**.

Participants work in **teams**, **guided** by **professors** or educational **leaders**, and **use design thinking methodologies** to **develop innovative** solutions to **problems aligned** with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

During the **competition**, various **awards** were presented, including the **Most Creative Innovation Award** to the **PrepaTec Well-Spring** team, which was presented at a [virtual ceremony](#) on May 24.

The **team** was also **nominated** for **the Best Overall Social Innovation Award**.

“Our students demonstrated that they can have an international impact.” - Lilia Villalba

“Our **students’ participation** in these **challenges** tests the **skills** they **develop** throughout **high school** and **demonstrates** their **social responsibility** and **international impact**,” said Lilia Villalba, Director of the Science Department.

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