

Portland hosts (and wins) IBEW Western States Electrical contest

IBEW Local 48 apprentice Ethan Rinier is the best in the West — taking first place in the 2018 Western States Elec-

trical Contest for newly graduated journey-level electricians. The competition was held Aug. 25 at the NECA-

IBEW Training Center in Northeast Portland.

Twenty contestants representing Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Nevada, and Utah were tested in seven electrician skills. Individuals were selected by each participating Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee from their annual graduating classes.

Rinier won the overall com-

petition by finishing first in the written exam, residential wiring, and conduit bending contest (below).

“Ethan did an amazing job,” said IBEW Local 48 Business Manager Gary Young. “We’re so glad to see one of our own recognized.”

Rinier did his apprenticeship at Cannon Beach Electric, at Intel with OEG and

Rosendin, and at Stoner Electric, where he continues today.

Thanks to Rinier, the IBEW Training Center in Portland will get to display the Carl Sorensen traveling trophy for the next year — after Rinier’s name is added to the plaque.

The Western States Electrical Contest dates back to 1963. The contest was last held in Portland in 2006.



IBEW Local 48 member Ethan Rinier (left) and NECA-IBEW Training Director Rod Belisle hoist the Carl Sorensen traveling trophy after Rinier won this year’s Western States Electrical apprenticeship contest. The trophy, with Rinier’s name now on it, will be on display at the training center in Portland for the next year. At right, contestants square off in the conduit-bending contest.




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