

COLORADO STUDENTS HONORED IN NATIONAL WRITING & ART COMPETITIONS

Colorado Humanities and Center for the Book Host Student Literary Awards

LAKWOOD – Forty Colorado students were honored at the fifth annual Student Literary Awards at the Lakewood Cultural Center on Thursday, May 1. The winning students, surrounded by parents, family members, teachers and educators from across the state, were recognized for their literary or artistic achievements in two national competitions *presented by* the Library of Congress:

Colorado has a [national grand prize-winner and a national finalist](#) in the River of Words poetry contest. Jack Baker, a 2nd grader from Polaris at Ebert Elementary School (DPS) won First Place nationally for his poem “Sewer”. Colorado Humanities and its program department, Colorado Center for the Book, administer the program at the state level.

2008 STUDENT LITERARY AWARDS LIST OF WINNERS

RIVER OF WORDS

River of Words contestants create art and poetry about the role of watersheds and the environment in our lives.

Level I (Kindergarten – 2nd Grade)

First Place Malia Olson
Second Place Catherine Washburn
Third Place Sully Marshall
Honorable Mention Nathan Howard

Level II (Grades 3 – 6)

First Place Elise Guyot
Second Place Kaitlyn Mitchell
Third Place Dean Patterson
Honorable Mention Arden Gehl

Level III (Grades 7 – 9)

First Place Sarah Hamilton
Second Place Juliann Richardson
Third Place Grayson Whitehouse
Honorable Mention Maya Stackhouse

Level IV (Grades 10 – 12)

First Place Moriah Van Cleef
Second Place Logan Jacobson
Third Place Amanda Wojahn
Honorable Mention Erin Goulet

National Honors

Jack Baker, National Grand Prize Winner in Category I, 2nd grade, Polaris at Ebert Elementary School, Denver
Isabel Levine-Clark, National Finalist in Category I, 2nd grade, Polaris at Ebert Elementary School, Denver

Art

First Place, Category I Cormac McCrimmon, Polaris at Ebert Elementary School, Denver
Honorable Mention Marlene Hight, individual entry from Colorado Springs
First Place, Category II Alfred Crager, Carlile Elementary School, Pueblo
Second Place Clark Tefft, Aspen Country Day School, Aspen
Third Place Diana O’Cuilinn, Pikes Peak School of Expeditionary Learning, Falcon
Honorable Mention Taylor Tyzzer, individual entry from Crested Butte
First Place, Category III&IV Knutzen Hoff, Crested Butte Academy, Crested Butte
First Place, Collaborative Art Jessika Sowle, Dustin Miller and Michelle Kuczowski, Mt. Garfield Middle School, Clifton

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

Letters About Literature participants write a personal letter to an author about how their book changed their perspective on the world.

Level I (Grades 4 – 6)

First Place Douglas Leshner, 6th grade at Summit Academy at Aurora Hills, Aurora

Second Place Sarah Evans, 5th grade at Stargate School, Thornton

Third Place Jin Baek, 6th grade at Summit Academy at Aurora Hills, Aurora

Honorable Mention Karin Van Hegewald, 6th grade at Summit Academy at Aurora Hills, Aurora

Level II (Grades 7 – 8)

First Place Amanda Coopersmith, 7th grade at Challenge School, Centennial

Second Place Tyler Turk, 8th grade at Summit Academy at Aurora Hills, Aurora

Third Place Alison Johnen, 8th grade at Drake Middle School, Arvada

Honorable Mention Rachel Rodriguez, 8th grade at Drake Middle School, Arvada

Level III (Grades 9 – 12)

First Place Melanie Brown, 11th grade individual entry from Centennial

Second Place Alexandria Godinez, 10th grade in Lamar High School, Lamar

Third Place Kiley Meissner, 9th grade homeschool entry from Yuma Public Library, Yuma

Honorable Mention BreOnna Aguilera 12th grade in Lamar High School, Lamar

About Colorado Humanities

Founded in 1974, Colorado Humanities is the only statewide organization in Colorado dedicated exclusively to support the humanities. Each year, the organization's teacher education, reading and writing and living history programs, grants and special events serve more than 20,000 people in 30 counties across Colorado. For more information, visit www.coloradohumanities.org or call 303-894-7951.