



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

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STUDENT WRITING WINNERS ANNOUNCED

(Frankfort, KY) – Today the Kentucky Department of Education announced the Kentucky winners in the 2013 national Letters About Literature (LAL) annual writing contest.

Sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Letters About Literature (LAL) writing contest for young readers challenges students to write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, of a book that inspired them. The book may be from any genre – fiction, nonfiction, poetry, contemporary or classic. The letter must explain how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves. The contest is open to students in grades 4-10.

Kentucky students compete with each other in the state competition. First, second and third place winners in three grade levels receive cash awards (1st place -- \$150; 2nd place -- \$75; 3rd place -- \$50). The first place winners at each level advance to the national judging and a chance to win a \$1,000 cash award or \$150 for second place. National winners will be announced in May.

Kentucky's 2013 Letters About Literature writing contest winners are:

Level 1 (Grades 4-6)

1st Place: Summer Mohamed, East Hardin MS (Hardin Co.)
Teacher—Kelly Baucum

2nd place: Mallory Hudson, Plano Elementary School (Warren Co.)
Teacher—Kaleigh Vincent

3rd place: Hannah Hassoun, Villa Madonna Academy (private school, Villa Hills, KY)
Teacher—Jennifer Yuenger

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Level 2 (Grades 7-8)

1st Place: Leila Abou-Jaoude, School for the Creative and Performing Arts (Fayette Co.)

Teacher— Eva Aldridge

2nd place: Katrin Flores, School for the Creative and Performing Arts (Fayette Co.)

Teacher— Eva Aldridge

3rd place: Addison Osborne, Knox County MS (Knox Co.)

Teacher— Sandra Ramsey

Level 3 (Grades 9-10)

1st Place: Meg Hancock, Paducah Tilghman High School (Paducah Ind.)

Teacher—Todd Ross

2nd place: Amina Shale, Seneca High School (Jefferson Co.)

Teacher— Jill Proffitt

3rd place: Abbigayle Willgruber, Greenwood High School (Warren Co.)

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