



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 2015 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 are scheduled to be announced later in May.

Kentucky's 2015 Letters About Literature writing contest winners are:

Level 1 (4-6)

1st place – Katherine Wilson
Johnson Elementary (Ft. Thomas Ind.)
Teacher – Katie Huber

2nd place – Olivia Hoffmann
Johnson Elementary (Ft. Thomas Ind.)
Teacher – Katie Huber

3rd place – Emma M. English
School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCAPA) (Fayette Co.)
Teacher – Kelly Gunn

Honorable Mention – Savannah King
Johnson Elementary (Ft. Thomas Ind.)
Teacher – Katie Huber

Level 2 (7-8)

1st place – Summer Mohamed
East Hardin Middle School (Hardin Co.)
Teacher – Kelly Baucum

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2nd place – Nicholas Skidmore
SCAPA at Bluegrass (Fayette Co.)
Teacher – Eva Aldridge

3rd place – Erin Ramsey, Louisville
No school or teacher listed

Level 3 (9-12)

1st place – Gabriell Townsend
Lexington Christian Academy
Teacher – Beth Groves

2nd place – Madison Lewis
Union Co. High School
Teacher – Melissa Oxford

3rd place – Alle Mills
Union Co. High School
Teacher – Melissa Oxford

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