



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Len Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Stephen A. Coleman
Kimberly Richardson
502-573-3080

Jim Claypool Art and Conservation Writing Winners Announced

Annual contest generated more than 60,000 entries

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb. 9, 2010) – The Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts, in partnership with the Kentucky Farm Bureau, announced the winners of the 2009 Art and Writing Contest entitled: “Water! Every Drop Counts.”

Kentucky students from kindergarten through grade 12 used the water theme to create 43,885 art entries and 16,534 writing entries. Judges from the local conservation districts chose county winners, whose entries then moved on to the state level competition. A distinguished panel of judges with diverse environmental backgrounds selected statewide winners in both categories on Feb. 8, 2010.

State, area and county winners will receive a monetary award sponsored by the Kentucky Farm Bureau along with recognition from their local conservation district.

“These two contests have been conducted in our school systems across the Commonwealth by conservation districts for well over 65 years. Many of us now working in the conservation profession can remember creating our first essay or poster,” said Steve Coleman, director of the Division of Conservation. “These students represent the future of Kentucky’s environmental and conservation leaders.”

State winners for the Jim Claypool Art Contest are:

- First place: Brayden Noah Mills, second grade; Lone Jack School Center, Bell County;
 - Second place: Jordan Zax, fifth grade, Sacred Heart Middle School, Jefferson County;
- and

- Third place: Helena Kaelin, fourth grade, St. Catherine of Siena; Campbell County.

State winners for the Conservation Writing Contest are:

- First place: Shea Jeremiah Ford, 10th grade; Leslie County High School;
- Second place: Annette Dangerfield, 10th grade; Green County High School; and
- Third place: Ben Brooks, sixth grade; Woodford County Middle School.

Carl Campbell, commissioner of the Department for Natural Resources added, "This traditional educational contest continues to promote the conservation of our natural resources. I commend the partnership between the Kentucky Farm Bureau, the county Farm Bureaus, the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts, the local conservation districts and the Division of Conservation for their efforts in rewarding these deserving students."

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