

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Campbell County students bring home several Young Authors awards

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Heritage Christian School has no heritage with the Young Authors competition, unlike other schools across the county.

Yet the 73-student school took part in the contest for the first time this year, and had five students take home awards. Heritage entered only one category per grade level and only up until 11th grade, where it submitted just one entry instead of two.

For Young Authors, every school in the county can submit two entries per grade level in each of six categories: fiction, special effects fiction (cover and illustrations), poetry, special effects poetry, non-fiction and special effects non-fiction.

The contest gives out first-place through honorable mention (fifth-place) awards at

every K-12 grade level in fiction, poetry and non-fiction; in each of the special effects categories, two winners in every grade take home awards.

Heritage Christian's winners included ninth-grader Tyler Magnuson, first in poetry; fifth-grader Megan Birdie, first in fiction; 11th-grader Charlene Pfaff, second in poetry; fourth-grader Elijah Moore, fourth in fiction; and fourth-grader Zeb Dickson, honorable mention in fiction.

"We have some very creative, talented students here," said Janet Mader, Heritage Christian's fifth- and sixth-grade teacher. "We're proud of them."

Several other schools did well, including Pronghorn Elementary, which garnered 39 awards, 16 in first place; 4J Elementary, with 18 awards; Paintbrush Elementary, with 16; and Twin Spruce, with 13.

Heritage decided to join the competition

to accentuate its focus on writing and language, Mader said. The elementary students composed fictional stories and the secondary grades wrote poetry. The school is K-12, but this year it has no 12th-graders, and only one 11th-grader, Pfaff.

"We have a strong language program; our administrator wants our students to be writing," she said. "It's very important that these students learn to communicate well with both writing and speaking. That's why we took on this activity — the creative abilities are there, but they have to be able to communicate their ideas in society."

Kelcie Schelling, County School District Curriculum Facilitator secretary and coordinator of the county Young Authors competition, recently sent the winning entries from the contest to the statewide competition. Results will be determined by the end of April, Schelling said.

YOUNG AUTHORS FIRST-PLACE WINNERS

In some cases, some grades had no entries or not enough for two first-place finishers.

FICTION

- **12TH GRADE:** Annie Johnson, Westwood
- **11TH GRADE:** Alyca Norris, CCHS
- **10TH GRADE:** Kris Nemeck, CCHS
- **EIGHTH GRADE:** DJ (Donald) Hayden, Sage Valley
- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Estella Torres, Twin Spruce
- **SIXTH GRADE:** Madeline Stolpe, Virtual School
- **FIFTH GRADE:** Megan Birdie, Heritage Christian
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Hannah Castrogiovanni, John Paul II
- **THIRD GRADE:** Kiana Ayers, Pronghorn
- **SECOND GRADE:** Cheyenne Berry, 4-J
- **FIRST GRADE:** Melina Scott, Pronghorn
- **KINDERGARTEN:** Emma Hoff, Paintbrush

SPECIAL EFFECTS FICTION

- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Tasha

- Carnahan, Twin Spruce; Faith Carson, Recluse
- **SIXTH GRADE:** Madeline Stolpe, Virtual School
- **FIFTH GRADE:** Eliza Beth Cotton, Rawhide; Taylor Barstad, Paintbrush
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Anna Lee Capron, Homeshcool; Brooke Austin, Paintbrush
- **THIRD GRADE:** Jessica Long, Paintbrush; Abbie Krussow, Wagonwheel
- **SECOND GRADE:** Alec Miller, Pronghorn; Cheyenne Berry, 4-J
- **FIRST GRADE:** Melina Scott, Alyssa Stumbaugh, Pronghorn
- **KINDERGARTEN:** Hunter Stevens, Pronghorn; Brendan Cundall, Rozet

POETRY

- **12TH GRADE:** Danielle Oster, Wright
- **11TH GRADE:** Alyca Norris, CCHS
- **10TH GRADE:** Jacqueda Phillips, CCHS
- **NINTH GRADE:** Tyler Magnuson, Heritage Christian
- **EIGHTH GRADE:** Stephanie Treto, Wright

- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Estela Torres, Twin Spruce
- **SIXTH GRADE:** Adrienne Holland, Paintbrush
- **FIFTH GRADE:** Eliza Beth Cotton, Rawhide
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Jessie Geer, 4-J
- **THIRD GRADE:** Kiana Ayers, Pronghorn
- **FIRST GRADE:** Kennedy Ayers, Pronghorn
- **KINDERGARTEN:** Dallas Grubbs, Pronghorn

SPECIAL EFFECTS POETRY

- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Riley West, Little Powder; Julia Montez, Sage Valley
- **SIXTH GRADE:** Tierney Hofmeister, Wagonwheel
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Jessie Geer, 4-J
- **THIRD GRADE:** Tessa Troughon, Sunflower; Sumner Grubbs, Pronghorn
- **FIRST GRADE:** Kloie Schrater, Rozet

NON-FICTION

- **12TH GRADE:** Kelsey Richards, CCHS
- **NINTH GRADE:** Taylor Rleniets,

- Sage Valley
- **EIGHTH GRADE:** Katelynn Huff, Little Powder
- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Jenna Nelson, Twin Spruce
- **FIFTH GRADE:** Kade Geer, Cottonwood
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Ashley Black, Rozet
- **THIRD GRADE:** Jolin Mills, 4-J
- **SECOND GRADE:** Preston Beckman, Pronghorn
- **FIRST GRADE:** Madeleine Murphree, Wagonwheel
- **KINDERGARTEN:** Maggie Hoff, Paintbrush

SPECIAL EFFECTS NON-FICTION

- **NINTH GRADE:** Sam Jarvis, Sage Valley
- **SIXTH GRADE:** Clay Kraft, Pronghorn; Lane Steward, Sunflower
- **FOURTH GRADE:** Ashley Black, Rozet; Walker Coulter, Pronghorn
- **THIRD GRADE:** Kassi Tennant, Wagonwheel
- **SECOND GRADE:** Preston Beckman, Pronghorn
- **FIRST GRADE:** Abby Geer, 4-J; Miah Richards, Lakeview