

Presentation School Fifth Graders Sweep Regional Essay Contest

5th graders Lamp, Molesworth and Love Took Home 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Against All Competing Sonoma and Napa Area Schools

February 2, 2011 – For decades, Sonoma area school students in grades 5-8 have competed in the annual Daughters of the American Revolution essay contest. The Presentation School competes each year in the Wine Trails Chapter against such local schools as St. Francis, Prestwood Elementary, Silverado Middle School, St. John the Baptist and other area public, private and parochial schools throughout Sonoma, Napa and Yountville.

For the 2010 essay contest, Presentation School 5th graders took home 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the DAR contest. There were 157 total entries this year and three winners were chosen in each grade. In 5th grade: Sarah Lamp came in 1st place, Alex Molesworth came in 2nd place and Connor Love came in 3rd place overall. In 6th grade, Ryan O'Hara came in 2nd place in the region and in 7th grade Niki Lewis came in 2nd place in the region. This year's essay topic was: "The Memoirs of Paul Revere" and the essays involved substantial research and were required to be 500-1000 words in length.

This is the third time in the past five years that Presentation students have swept all awards in a single grade. In 2007, 6th graders Henry Dixon, Daniel Payne, and Dan Deely took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place on the topic of: "I Spy: Espionage during the American Revolution." In 2006, Kendall Ashe, Amanda Mertens, and Charlotte Cooper swept the category for the 6th grade level taking 1st, 2nd and 3rd place on the topic of "Jamestown, 1607."

Each year a selected topic for use during the academic year is announced and contest instructions are sent to the schools by participating chapters. Essays are judged for historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of materials, interest, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and neatness.

Participating chapters send one winning essay from each of the four grades for judging on the state level. The state will send Sarah Lamp's essay as representing the best work done by an area 5th grader to be judged on a regional level. The winning essay from each of the four grades will then be judged on the national level and the winners are announced.

Each student receives a certificate of participation by the chapter and the chapter winners receive bronze medals and certificates. State winners should receive certificates and silver medals. National winners should receive special certificates, medals, and a monetary award.

Earlier in 2010, DAR also awarded their Good Citizenship Medal to two graduating Presentation School students: Rayne Caldwell-Barr Panizo and Nina Sheridan.

More information about the DAR contest is available here:
<http://www.dar.org/natsociety/essays.cfm>. For more information about Presentation:
please go to www.presentationsschool.com.