



press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS 45 & 49 announces local winners of 12th Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest

KENT, Ohio — March 27, 2006 — PBS 45 & 49 announced the local winners in the kindergarten, first-, second- and third-grade categories of the **Reading Rainbow 12th Annual Young Writers & Illustrators Contest** [see below for complete list of winners]. The winners were announced on March 25, 2006, at the PBS 45 & 49 / Summit Mall Family Expo in Akron, hosted by Children Services of Summit County in honor of Child and Family Awareness Month.

The four grand-prize winners received \$50 Borders Books and Music gift certificates. All second- and third-place winners received \$25 Borders gift certificates. Grand prize and second- and third-place stories will be available to read on the PBS 45 & 49 Web site (www.pbs4549.org) by April 14, 2006.

The **Reading Rainbow 12th Annual Young Writers & Illustrators Contest** encouraged children in kindergarten through grade three to submit their original stories and illustrations to PBS 45 & 49. Submissions were accepted from January until February 24, 2006, and were judged on originality, creative expression, storytelling and integration of text and illustrations. Over 300 local children submitted stories.

Reading Rainbow, hosted by actor LeVar Burton, is a critically acclaimed television series that encourages children ages 5 to 10 to read. It is the most-used television program in local K-3 classrooms. The Emmy Award-winning series airs weekdays at 11 a.m. on PBS 45 & 49.

PBS 45 & 49

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**Winners of PBS 45 & 49's Reading Rainbow
12th Annual Young Writers & Illustrators Contest**

Kindergarten Winners

Grand Prize

Name: Ryan Moon
Story: "The Missing Sloth"
Parents: Tim and Beth Moon
City: Rootstown
School: Waterloo Elementary School

Second Place

Name: Daniel Daley
Story: "Carlo the Original"
Parents: Park and Brenda Daley
City: Salem
School: Reilly Elementary

Third Place

Name: Sydney Kleptach
Story: "The Tricky Zebra"
Parents: Brian and Lisa Kleptach
E-mail: blklep@sbcglobal.net
City: North Canton
School: Warstler Elementary School

2nd Grade Winners

Grand Prize

Name: Abbi Joy Cox
Story: "My Dog Between My Toes"
Parents: Mark and Susanna Cox
City: Dennison
School: Home-schooled

Second Place

Name: Alexandria Skowronski
Story: "Scooby Becomes Part of the Gang"
Parents: Annamarie D'Orazio-Skowronski and
Daniel Skowronski
City: Garrettsville
School: St. Joseph's, Mantua

Third Place

Name: Wesley Henkel
Story: "Ricky the Dinosaur"
Parents: Jeff and Sherri Henkel
City: New Philadelphia
School: South Elementary School

First Grade Winners

Grand Prize

Name: Carson Keenan
Story: "The Astronaut from the First Grade"
Parents: David and Michele Keenan
City: Uniontown
School: St. Francis deSales

Second Place

Name: Nicholas Schragal
Story: "Moon Visit"
Parents: Mary and Nick Schragal
City: Chardon
School: Gilmour Academy Lower School

Third Place

Name: Bennett Hilker
Story: "William Moves to California"
Parents: Jennifer and Al Hilker
City: Solon
School: Lewis Elementary

3rd Grade Winners

Grand Prize

Name: Hannah Jarvis
Story: "Shiner"
Parents: Doug and Patti Jarvis
City: Homeworth
School: Knox Elementary School, Alliance

Second Place

Name: Jessica Linville
Story: "Jaffy Goes to Dance Class"
Parents: Jill and Wally Linville
City: North Canton
School: Lake Center Christian School, North
Canton

Third Place

Name: Hallie Yerian
Story: "The First Star"
Parents: John and Louise Yerian
City: Poland
School: Poland Union Elementary School