



## **PBS 45 & 49**

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# *press release*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PBS 45 & 49 Invites Children to Enter Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest**

*Children in grades K-3 are invited to submit  
their original stories for judging*

KENT, Ohio — Jan. 4, 2008 — Encourage your children to put their creative minds in motion! PBS 45 & 49 invites children to discover the fun and power of imagination by entering the 14th Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest. The contest encourages children in four grade levels — kindergarten, first, second and third grades — to submit their original stories and illustrations to PBS 45 & 49 for local prizes and a chance to compete at the national level.

To obtain an entry packet, parents, teachers and students can call PBS 45 & 49 at (330) 677-4549 or 1-800-554-4549. Entry forms and other contest information can also be downloaded from the PBS 45 & 49 Web site at [www.pbs4549.org](http://www.pbs4549.org). Follow the Reading Rainbow Contest links. Entry packets also are available in local libraries. Contest entries must be postmarked by Saturday, March 15, 2008.

PBS 45 & 49 will name a grand-prize, second-place and third-place winner in each of the four grade levels. Local winners will be announced on Saturday, April 15 at 11:30 a.m. at the following locations: Summit Mall in Akron as part of the PBS 45 & 49/ Summit Mall Family Expo and Fellows Riverside Gardens at Mill Creek Metroparks as part of the Youngstown Area Book Fair. PBS 45 & 49 will also announce winners on air on Monday, April 7, preceding and following the 10 a.m. broadcast of **Reading Rainbow**. Winners will be notified by phone, mail or e-mail as well.

A panel of PBS 45 & 49 staff members, local children's librarians and teachers will judge the entries based on originality, creative expression, storytelling and integration of text and illustrations. The grand-prize submissions in each category will be entered into the National Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators competitions. All entrants will receive a Reading Rainbow Certificate of Achievement signed by the show's host, LeVar Burton.

**Local Prizes**

Each grand-prize winner will receive a DVD player and a Reading Rainbow backpack and DVD. Local winners of second place will receive a set of art supplies and a Reading Rainbow backpack and DVD. Third-place winners will receive a Borders Books and Music Gift Card and a Reading Rainbow backpack and DVD. Honorable mentions will receive a Reading Rainbow backpack and DVD.

**National Prizes**

PBS 45 & 49's grand-prize winners in each category will be entered in the national Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators competitions. National contest winners will be announced in June 2008. The national grand-prize winner in each grade level will receive a laptop computer.

**About Reading Rainbow**

**Reading Rainbow**, the Emmy Award-winning PBS children's series starring LeVar Burton, takes viewers on unforgettable learning adventures to nurture a lifelong love of reading. PBS 45 & 49 airs the show weekdays at 10 a.m.

**About PBS 45 & 49**

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of noncommercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit [www.pbs4549.org](http://www.pbs4549.org) or call 1-800-854-4549.

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