



Environment

Prince George's County, Maryland

County Students Create Winning Posters for 21st Annual "Be Kind to Animals" Poster Contest and Awards Ceremony

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Contact: Laruen A. Kinard, Public Information Specialist, Department of Environmental Resources/301-883-5957

Student Artists Focus on R.E.S.P.O.N.S.I.B.L.E. Pet Ownership

LARGO, MD – The Department of Environmental Resources' (DER) Animal Management Division announced the winning entries of the 21st annual "Be Kind To Animals" Poster Contest during a special awards ceremony held May 8 at the Animal Services Facility in Upper Marlboro. More than 2,100 entries were submitted and of those, 22 creative posters designed by student artists in kindergarten through sixth grade, were honored during the ceremony. Through the "Be Kind to Animals" Poster Contest, Prince George's County recognizes elementary school students for their poster designs inspired by everyday acts of kindness, consideration and respect of animals.

"I am proud of all of you! These posters clearly demonstrate your outstanding knowledge of how to be kind pet owners," said DER Associate Director, Rodney Taylor. During his address to students, Chief Taylor engaged students in an enthusiastic review of the many ways everyone can care for animals. Lively responses encompassed a wide variety of R.E.S.P.O.N.S.I.B.L.E. pet care practices including rabies shots, exercise, spaying (and neutering), picking up poop, obedience training, nutrition, safety, identification tags, brushing, leash walking and every day care for animals. Chief Taylor also recognized and thanked Ms. Mary Jacobs, and Mr. Roger and Judy McClain for their generous contribution and ongoing support of the "Be Kind to Animals" Poster Contest and Awards Ceremony.

Showing their support, principals, teachers and parents of the honorees attended the ceremony, which included welcoming remarks from DER Deputy Director Larry Coffman. On behalf of Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, Special Assistant to the County Executive Corey Smedley presented DER's Animal Management Division Chief Rodney Taylor with a proclamation that officially declared "Be Kind to Animals" Week May 5 – 9, 2014.

Emphasizing the importance of having pets spayed or neutered, and feeding animals a healthy diet, grand prize poster contest honoree Ana Fernandez of Montpelier Elementary School received a \$200 gift card and a

commemorative prize bag. Honors were also presented in first, second and third places, which included \$100, \$75 and \$50 gift cards respectively, and commemorative prize bags.

To view photos from the awards ceremony, [click here](#)

Winners and their prizes include:

Grand Prize

\$200 and gift bag

- ♣ Ana Fernandez, 3rd Grade, Mrs. Clamage, Montpelier Elementary School
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First Place

\$100 gift certificate and commemorative gift bag (per winner)

- ♣ Taylor Gilmore, Kindergarten, Mrs. Parker, Barack Obama Elementary School
 - ♣ Ashley Dixon, 1st Grade, Ms. Paden, Woodridge Elementary School
 - ♣ Nate Luttrell, 2nd Grade, Mrs. Tull, Tulip Grove Elementary School
 - ♣ Celestine Karn, 3rd Grade, Mrs. Clamage, Montpelier Elementary School
 - ♣ Kylee Bolden, 4th Grade, Mr. Magnaye, William Paca Elementary School
 - ♣ Melvin Vides, 5th Grade, Mr. Koogle, Flinstone Elementary School
 - ♣ Adeoluwa Fatukasi, 6th Grade, Mrs. Lohrmann, Glenn Dale Elementary School
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Second Place

\$75 gift certificate and commemorative gift bag (per winner)

- ♣ Kayla Tatum, Kindergarten, Ms. Howell, St. Ambrose Catholic School
- ♣ Amirah Abdullah, 1st Grade, Ms. Gates, Woodmore Elementary School
- ♣ Gabrielle Johnson-Prince, 2nd Grade, Mrs. Ayala, Jericho Christian Academy
- ♣ Betzy Ramirez, 3rd Grade, Ms. Ace, Beltsville Academy
- ♣ Katelyn Ruyter, 4th Grade, Mrs. Razler, Kenilworth Elementary School

♣ Sanaa' Wilson, 5th Grade, Mrs. Wilson, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Elementary School

♣ Alexandria Patrick, 1st Grade, Ms. Gates, Woodmore Elementary School

Third Place

\$50 gift certificate and commemorative gift bag (per winner)

♣ Kyndal Fenwick, Kindergarten, Mrs. Parker, Barack Obama Elementary School

♣ Jin Hao, 1st Grade, Ms. Stern, Woodmore Elementary School

♣ Adrean Walls, 2nd Grade, Mrs. Tull, Tulip Grove Elementary School

♣ Allyssa Britton, 3rd Grade, Mrs. Clamage, Montpelier Elementary School

♣ Diana Sanchez, 4th Grade, Ms. Rowley, Ridgecrest Elementary School

♣ Miya Lenae Virgil, 5th Grade, Perrywood Elementary School

♣ Jarrold Holcomb, 6th Grade, Ms. Fletcher, Robert R. Gray Elementary School

For more information about the “Be Kind to Animals” Poster Contest and Awards Ceremony contact County Click 3-1-1.

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