

Winners of the Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest

In what has turned into a springtime ritual, over 525 children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade entered the 10th Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest! The contest, which has become a major community literacy celebration, is part of the KLVX Ready To Learn program. Ready To Learn promotes literacy, health education and family involvement in children's education.



This year a record number of entries were received from public, private and home schooled students. Each submitted an original story and artwork to be judged. All children who entered a story received a signed certificate from Reading Rainbow host LaVar Burton. Judges had the tough task of selecting the top twenty local stories from the hundreds that were submitted.

Believing that local literacy deserves greater recognition, KLVX decided that these outstanding students and their families were worthy of a special awards ceremony and television program promoting their achievements. The authors and illustrators of these winning stories, along with their families, gathered together at KLVX. The studio was filled with excited parents, teachers, principals, and children who anxiously waited to hear the placement of their story. Results of the contest are not released until the actual awards are distributed. Adding to the excitement of the event, Nevada State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Keith Rheault shared some inspiring words. He indicated he had personal knowledge of the impact of the contest as his daughter won an award five years ago and was still very proud of the honor!

In addition to spending countless hours overseeing the administration of the KLVX RTL program, along with the Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest, KLVX Ready To Learn Coordinator, Candace Thompson, and Program Assistant, Katie Hagmaier, hosted the ceremony.

Trophies for first through third place were distributed at each grade level. Students who did not receive trophies were awarded Honorable Mention ribbons. In addition, all students left the



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stage with a Reading Rainbow Literacy Backpack filled with additional prizes. The ceremony was taped and aired in CCSD elementary schools via the KLVX school-based channels and will air on

Cox Cable Channel 71. First place local winners will have their stories forwarded to Reading Rainbow for the national competition. Good luck to:

Amanda Hansen, Kindergarten

Sabrina Close, 1st Grade

Keenan Harvis, 2nd Grade

Michael McIntosh, 3rd Grade

KLVX recognizes these students, their families, and schools who supported their creativity and excellence.

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