

Ancestor Essay Report 2022

I felt this was a particularly successful year for our SUP ancestor essay contest. All schools in Cedar City and Enoch participated. Escalante Valley has participated in the past, but they didn't participate this year. It was nice to have the East participate, even though there were only three students. I attempted to have Parowan Elementary participate, but got no response. I'll see if those members of our chapter who live in Parowan be more involved in inviting them next year.

As far as participants in each school, this is the break down:

East	3 entries
Gateway	19 entries
South	75 entries
Fiddlers	9entries
Three Peaks	12 entries
North	26 entries
Iron Springs	114 entries
Enoch	83 entries

Total: 331 That's down from last year's record of 352 essays, but I think it was a great showing.

These were the first place winners in each of the schools:

East - Lilly Black
Gateway - Jack Girtain
Fiddlers - Boston Hulet
Three Peaks - Kynlee Dalton
North - Laikyn Davis
Iron Springs - Lauren Wood
Enoch - Claire Askeroth
South - Laryah Dawavendewa

The overall winner was Brianne Perkins from Three Peaks. She will be reading her essay at the town meeting on July 23rd. The plan is to recognize each of the first place school winners at that meeting as well.

We presented a first place, second place, third place winners at each school. The first place winners received a \$35 prize. The second place winner received a \$25 prize. Third place received a \$15 prize. I forgot that we awarded a fourth place winner in school with heavy participation. We'll do that next year. The overall winner won a prize of \$50.

Each person who entered an essay was given a thank you note and a vintage candy bar; Snickers, created in 1920s.

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These were the judges:

Burke Hamilton, Wally and Jeanne Boggess, Joe and Beverly Burgess, Maria Smith, Paul and Maureen Holyoak, Melinda Dotson, Jeff and Julia Corry, Burke and Marcene Halilton, and Kent and Karen Hugh. They received a thank you and a gift certificate for a blizzard at Dairy Queen. Special thanks for their help. It was shared by each how difficult a task it had been. Thanks also to Jay Jones who presented awards in my absence at two of the schools and to Jeff Corry who presented in one school.

Hopefully axn article about our essay contest will be included in the Today newspaper at a future time.

The beauty of this contest is the satisfaction that 331 fourth graders learned about an ancestor. The significance of this is again shared in the quote by Kelly Wallace:

“Research shows that children who have been told about their ancestors and know a great deal about their past are better adjusted and more resilient in the face of challenges.”

Kelly Wallace, CNN, June 3, 2015

Howard Thorley
Essay chairman, 2022