



Quality programs that inform, involve and inspire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2009

Contact:
Daphne Adair
206.443.6791
dadair@KCTS9.org

KCTS 9 announces the winners of the first-ever *Storymakers* creative writing challenge for middle-school students

*Celebrate the joy of creative expression with the **Storymakers** Challenge, a new project that helps young writers across the Pacific Northwest make their voices heard.*

SEATTLE—The winners of KCTS 9's first-ever ***Storymakers: A Creative Challenge for Young Writers*** contest, including sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from across Washington state and British Columbia, have been announced. A complete list of winners appears below; their stories are featured online at KCTS9.org/storymakers.

Winners attended a Creative Expressions Workshop at KCTS 9 Studios on Saturday, March 28, where they wrote and self-published new stories under the guidance of local author Kevin Emerson and 826 Seattle. These talented young writers also earned a prize package and entry into a drawing for a series of writing workshops with KCTS 9's community partners. Each writer who submitted an entry received a Certificate of Achievement signed by Kevin Emerson.

Storymakers seeks to encourage and support self-expression and the writing process for middle school students, and included works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and prose. The winning entries, which were chosen from hundreds submitted, were selected based on criteria reflecting the six traits of writing: content, lexical choice, conventions, organization, voice and syntax. Entries were judged by a panel including Rebecca Brinson, 826 Seattle; Janine King, Seattle Schools Instructional Coach; Elizabeth Ames Staudt, Seattle Arts and Lectures Writers in the Schools Program and Clare Lilliston, Richard Hugo House, as well as Literacy AmeriCorps volunteers.

Ten winners were selected from each grade. The winners and their stories are:

➤ Grade 6

- Erin Compton, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *Belle of the Lake*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/belleofthelake>
- Thomas Brehmer, Sylvan Way Christian, Bremerton *Bob's Adventures*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/bobsadventure>
- Megan Thomson, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *Down the Mold-Hole*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/downthemoldhole>
- Daniel McInerney, Island View Elementary, Anacortes *It's Simply Complicated*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/itssimplycomplicated>
- Montanna Inkster, Ralph Bell Elementary, Kamloops, B.C. *How Did Big Foot Become Big Footed and Get So Hairy?*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/howdidbigfoot>
- Cadence Michel, Key Peninsula Middle School, Lakebay *Hope*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/hope>
- Kamilah Constable, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *The Snake*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/thesnake>
- Kelsey Bowers, Key Peninsula Middle School, Lakebay *Rushing Brooke*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/getawaysandrescues>
- Julie Moray, Kamloops, Ralph Bell Elementary, B.C. *Go to Sleep Sally Sheep*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/sleepsallysheep>
- Kimi Rutlidge, McClure Middle, Seattle *Can you Hear Me Now?*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/canyouhearme>

➤ Grade 7

- Piper Kachman, Homeschool, Spanaway *Complaints of a Doll*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/complaintsofadoll>
- Madison Walkup, Cascade Preparatory School, Burlington *Forever Always*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/foreveralways>
- Mara Burns, McMurry Middle School, Vashon Island *Death Inside Life*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/deathinsidelife>
- Anastasia Finney, Rainier Miller School, Auburn *How Rainbows Came To Be*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/rainbowscametobe>
- Grace Lyles, Miller Junior high School, Hoquiam *Leaving*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/leaving>
- Brandon Spicer, Homelink, Selah *Fire and Steel*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/fireandsteel>
- Amelia McIntosh, Miller Junior High School, Aberdeen *My Fifteen Minutes of Fame*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/fifteenminutesfame>
- Sheenie Shannon, The Northwest School, Kirkland *The Muse*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/themuse>
- Lili Stenn, The Harbor School, Vashon Island *Ready or Not*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/readyofnot>
- Noah Hirsch, Billings Middle School, Seattle *Rosco, Pressure Cookers, and Cardboard Poets*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/roscoecardboardpoets>

➤ Grade 8

- Rafael Padilla, McClure Middle School, Seattle *Nighttime Frenzy*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/nighttimefrenzy>
- Jeremy Chen, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *Grade Inflation*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/gradeinflation>
- Danielle Wilson, Kilo Middle School, Auburn *A Deadly Walk on the Beach*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/deadlywalkbeach>
- Kathleen Zhou, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *Dear Carolyn*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/dearcarolyn>
- Dandi Meng, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *The Guardian*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/theguardian>
- Megan Stevens, Kenmore Junior High, Bothell *A Bite to Remember*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/bitetoremember>
- Brianna Pedicone, Aylem Junior High, Puyallup *Peace and Honor*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/peaceandhonor>
- Olivia Stephens, Kilo Middle School, Auburn *Feet Aren't The Only Things That Shape The World*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/feetshapeworld>
- Emily Zhang, Odle Middle School, Bellevue *Rain Ravine*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/rainravine>
- Jessica Jang, Nova School, Olympia *Music-speak*
<http://www.KCTS9.org/kids/kids/storymakers2008/winners/musicspeak>

Please click on each title above to read the full project online.

Storymakers: A Creative Challenge for Young Writers is sponsored by KCTS 9, with major funding provided by the Qwest Foundation. KCTS 9 thanks the following partners for their support and collaboration on this project: Richard Hugo House, Seattle Arts and Lectures Writers in Schools Program, 826 Seattle, Literacy AmeriCorps, and the teachers at participating schools inspired their students to write and submit their work.

###

The KCTS 9 mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by providing meaningful programming on air, online and in the community that informs, involves and inspires.