

Michigan high school students helping Michigan schools
● Build Character ● Celebrate Diversity ● Promote Healthy Living

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Gerald R. Ford
Presidential
Foundation



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Family Foundation



Judges



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Winners Announced at the MEIJER GREAT CHOICES STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS EVENT Michigan High School Students Compete To Demonstrate Good Choices!

BYRON CENTER, MI (June, 2016): Michigan high school students, along with their friends and families, attended The Meijer Great Choices Student Film Festival Awards Event on Saturday June 4th hosted by The Van Singel Fine Arts Center in Byron Center. Organizers handed out 60 awards totaling \$21,150 in prizes to Michigan High School Students for their winning entries in the 2016 Meijer Great Choices Film Festival.

Students from throughout the state, submitted nearly 400 :30 public service announcement videos promoting positive choices in the areas of Character Education, Healthy Living, and Celebrating Diversity. There are two different audiences that the young filmmakers target in their PSA's: Kindergarten through 6th or 7th through 12th grades. The Meijer Great Choices competition was designed for Michigan student film makers to exhibit their creative talent in audio/visual communications and to share their messages with K-12 schools throughout Michigan.

Cash awards were in the form of gift cards to Meijer, Apple or Amazon. First place winners received \$1,500, second place \$1,000 and third place finalists received \$500. The 42 runners up (fourth through tenth place) received a gift card for \$75. All of the finalists in attendance received an award and commemorative gift.

All 60 of the top PSA's were shown at the Awards Reception. Michigan State Representative Rob VerHuelen was the keynote speaker for the event. In September, the winning PSA's in each category will be reproduced on DVDs and distributed to schools across the state as tools for their Character Education, Health Education and Diversity programs.

Immediately following the Awards Ceremony the winners and their families were treated to a special reception in the Van Singel's Gainey Gallery.

The Meijer Great Choices Film Festival also awarded six classroom grants totaling \$2,700 to K-8 classrooms who submitted video entries in the Meijer Great Choices Junior Film Festival competition.

The purpose of the film festival is to highlight the talent of our state's audio/visual students while allowing these students to make a positive impact on Michigan's K-12 youth in the areas of Diversity, Character Education, and Healthy Lifestyles. The festival was developed in partnership with Meijer Inc, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Chemical Bank, The Vander Laan Family Foundation, and the Van Singel Fine Arts Center.

For complete details, including rules and guidelines go to www.meijergreatchoices.com.
Look for a complete list of finalists on the reverse side of this press release.

2016 Meijer Great Choices Student Film Festival Winners

Ryleigh Carrier	First Place	7-12 Building Character	Grosse Pointe South High School
Elizabeth Okma	Second Place	7-12 Building Character	Holland Christian High School
Mackenzie Tolitsky & Samantha Nork	Third Place	7-12 Building Character	Fraser High School
Emily Knappe	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Forest Hills Northern High School
Gaven L. Flinton	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Mecosta Osceola Career Center
Sam Buzzell	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Frankfort High School
Jalisa Cruz	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center
Sydney Ferguson	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Roosevelt High School
Alanah Herfi	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Grosse Pointe South High School
Mikayla Kruse	Runner Up	7-12 Building Character	Rockford High School
Billy Scharf	First Place	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Catholic Central High School-Saginaw
Bradley Sinclair	Second Place	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Rockford High School
Emma M. Bartnicki	Third Place	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Powers Catholic High School
Andy Baribeau	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center
Dario Lirio	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Hudsonville High School
Hannah Hammond	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Rockford High School
Timothy Quinlan	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Mecosta Osceola Career Center
Anneet Deol	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Eastern High School
Jaz Edwards	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Genesee Career Institute
Will Schafer	Runner Up	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Fowler High School
Jonathan Hulst	First Place	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center
Jack Clegg	Second Place	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Forest Hills Northern High School
Nicole Villalobos	Third Place	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Forest Hills Northern High School
Megan Wellman	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Mecosta Osceola Career Center
Scott Cubr	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Fenton Senior High School
Kristin Penrose	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Lake Orion High School
David Guinn	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Rockford High School
Morgan Johnston	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center
Elizabeth Gallagher	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Grosse Pointe North High School
Jack Clegg	Runner Up	7-12 Promoting Healthy Living	Forest Hills Northern
Jessica Jones	First Place	K-6 Building Character	Lake Orion High School
Benjamin Centner	Second Place	K-6 Building Character	Forest Hills Eastern High School
Morgan Johnston	Third Place	K-6 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center
Aaron Powers	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Byron Center High School
Nicholas Ellery	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Grosse Pointe North High School
Aleyah Mayne	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Kelloggsville High School
Carrie Finholm	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Thornapple Kellogg High School
Kierra Conklin	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Forest Hills Eastern High School
Morgan Johnston	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center
Nicole Hair	Runner Up	K-6 Building Character	Thornapple Kellogg High School
Sean Chastain	First Place	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Forest Hills Eastern High School
Jessica Jones	Second Place	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Lake Orion High School
Kimberly Noorman	Third Place	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center
Rebecca Pendergrass	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center
Brad Kenel	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Swan Valley High School
Cecilia Cerven	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Allegan High School
Leah Carten-Crandell	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center
Molly Hulbert	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Thornapple Kellogg High School
Morgan Johnston	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center
Jolie Smith	Runner Up	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Holland Christian High School
Claire Netemeyer	First Place	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Forest Hills Eastern High School
Grace Novak	Second Place	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Royal Oak High School
Sadie Stevens	Third Place	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Mecosta Osceola Career Center
Alana Purdy	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Lake Orion High School
Abby Mulder	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center
Anna VanderLaan	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Hudsonville High School
Ashley Boersma	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Forest Hills Northern High School
Bree Bonnema	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Thornapple Kellogg High School
Brittany Buehler	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Thornapple Kellogg High School
Jaime Scane	Runner Up	K-6 Promoting Healthy Living	Allegan High School

2016 Meijer Great Choices Junior K-8 Classroom Finalists

Classroom of Jean Simon	Celebrating Diversity	St. Michael Parish School
Classroom of Janine Campbell	Celebrating Diversity	Byron Center West Middle School
Classroom of Karen Bosch	Celebrating Diversity	Southfield Christian School
Classroom of Stacey Morrison	Healthy Living	Emerald Elementary Schools
Classroom of Janine Campbell	Healthy Living	Byron Center West Middle
Classroom of Jean Simon	Healthy Living	St. Michael Parish School
Classroom of Janine Campbell	Promoting Character	Byron Center West Middle School
Classroom of Karen Bosch	Promoting Character	Southfield Christian School
Classroom of Marcia J. Dettloff	Promoting Character	Sault Area Middle School