

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

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GREAT CHOICES STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL 18

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Gerald R. Ford
Presidential
Foundation

Vander Laan
Family Foundation



VAN SINGEL
FINE ARTS CENTER

Judges



**Finalists Announced for the
MEIJER GREAT CHOICES STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL
Michigan High School Students Compete To Demonstrate Good Choices!
Award Presentation scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd**

BYRON CENTER, MI (May, 2018): The Meijer Great Choices Student Film Festival organizers will be handing out 60 awards totaling \$21,150 in prizes to Michigan High School Students on Saturday, June 2nd for their winning entries in the 2018 Meijer Great Choices Film Festival. The Van Singel Fine Arts Center is thrilled to host the Awards Presentation that begins at 10:00 am at the fine arts center.

High School students from throughout the state, submitted more than 300 :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 targeted 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.

Audio/Visual/Advertising students and professors from Compass College of Cinematic Arts, Ferris State University, Cornerstone University, Grand Valley State University, Northwood University and Western Michigan University were the preliminary judges and choose the anonymous finalists based on specific criteria. High school students throughout Michigan have been notified that they are finalists and are invited to participate in the June 3rd awards presentation activities. There are eighteen 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners that will be announced at the awards presentation who will receive prizes of \$1,500, \$1,000, or \$500 in the form of a gift card to Meijer. The 42 runners up (fourth through tenth place winners) will each receive a gift card for \$75. All of the finalists in attendance will receive an award and gift at the awards presentation.

All 60 of the top PSA's will be shown at the Awards Reception at the Van Singel Fine Arts Center. 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.

The Meijer Great Choices Film Festival also awards 12 classroom grants totaling \$3,300 to K-8 classrooms who submitted video entries in the Meijer Great Choices Junior Film Festival competition. These PSA videos will also be recognized at Saturday's Awards event.

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 is in partnership with Meijer, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, The Vander Laan Family Foundation, and the Van Singel Fine Arts Center.

The public and media are invited to the Saturday, June 2nd Awards Ceremony beginning at 10:00 am at the Van Singel Fine Arts Center (8500 Burlingame SW, Byron Center, MI – due to construction guest will need to enter at the west entrance, facing Burlingame SW, of Byron Center High School). There will be an informal reception for the winners and their families immediately following the awards event.

For complete details, including rules and guidelines go to www.meijergreatchoices.com.
Look for a complete list of finalists included in this press release.

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2018 Meijer Great Choices Film Festival High School Finalists

Abria Franklin	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Holland High School	Holland
Adam Gill	K-6 Building Character	Forest Hills Northern	Grand Rapids
Adrienne Duits	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Thornapple Kellogg High School	Middleville
Aidan Flynn	7-12 Healthy Living	Pewamo - Westphalia Highschool	Westphalia
Alayna Arms	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Byron Center High School	Byron Center, MI
Algernai Hayes	K-6 Healthy Living	William D. Ford Career-Tech Center	Westland
Allison Riley	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Alyssa Nurenberg	7-12 Building Character	Pewamo-Westphalia	Westphalia
Ashley Heyboer	K-6 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Ashley Reynolds	K-6 Building Character	Romeo High School	Romeo
Ashley Sayers	K-6 Healthy Living	Forest Hills Northern High School	Grand Rapids
Austin Bonnema	7-12 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Brandon Foster	7-12 Building Character	William D. Ford Career Technical Center	Westland
Brayan Terrazas	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Innovation Central HS	Grand Rapids
Caitlin Walsh	K-6 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Carli Kelley	K-6 Building Character	Rockford High School	Rockford
Elizabeth Blue	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Emma Sheldon	7-12 Healthy Living	Rockford High School	Rockford
Emma Thelen	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Pewamo Westphalia	Westphalia
Gigi Bonnell	7-12 Building Character	Grosse Pointe South High School	Grosse Pointe Farms
Hayden Strobel	K-6 Building Character	Forest Hills Northern High School	Grand Rapids
Hudson DeBoer	K-6 Building Character	Holland Christian High School	Holland
Jacob Hoekwater	K-6 Healthy Living	Holland Christian	Holland
Jeanne Fox	7-12 Healthy Living	Rockford High School	Rockford
Jonathan Hulst	7-12 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Jonathan Hulst	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Landon Barrett	K-6 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Liberty Tetzlaff	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Thornapple Kellogg	Middleville
Linsey Holverson	7-12 Building Character	Rockford High School	Rockford
Lucas Pohl	7-12 Building Character	Pewamo-Westphalia	Westphalia
Mackenzie Andrews	K-6 Building Character	Pewamo-Westphalia High School	Westphalia
Makayla Thelen	K-6 Building Character	Pewamo-Westphalia High School	Westphalia
Mandie Barry	7-12 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Mariele Feldpausch	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Fowler High School	Fowler
Matthew Arnett	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	William D Ford Career Technical Center	Westland
Michaela Ronk	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Rockford High School	Rockford
Nathan Whitmer	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Nicholas Megdanoff	7-12 Healthy Living	Fenton High School	Fenton
Olivia Gargett	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Forest Hills Northern	Grand Rapids
Olivia Shupe	K-6 Healthy Living	Rockford High School	Rockford
Paige Metcalf	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Forest Hills Northern	Grand Rapids
Rachel Rademacher	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Pewamo-Westphalia High School	Westphalia
Richard Tharrett	7-12 Healthy Living	Henry Ford II High School	Sterling Heights
Sam Zebell	7-12 Building Character	Rockford High School	Rockford
Sara Maola	K-6 Healthy Living	Frederick V. Pankow Center	Clinton Twp
Savannah Srebernak	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Grosse Pointe South High School	Grosse Pointe Farms
Shane Verkest	7-12 Healthy Living	Pankow Center	Macomb
Shelby Myles	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Swan Valley High School	Saginaw
Solomon Bunce	K-6 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Tarek Alhalmi	7-12 Celebrating Diversity	Frontier International Academy	Detroit
Teresa Nguyen	K-6 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Tiler DeWitt	K-6 Celebrating Diversity	Kelloggsville High School	Grand Rapids
Trenton Meeuwsen	7-12 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Trevor Baker	K-6 Healthy Living	William D. Ford Career Technical Center	Westland
Tristan Idema	7-12 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech center	Holland
Tyler Battershell	7-12 Healthy Living	Lake Orion High School	Lake Orion
Veronica Weisenbach	K-6 Building Character	Paul K. Cousino High School	Warren
Will Baker	K-6 Building Character	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Will Baker	7-12 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland
Xian T. Castillo	7-12 Healthy Living	Careerline Tech Center	Holland

2018 Meijer Great Choices Jr Film Festival K-8 Classroom Finalists

Byron Center West Middle School, Janine Campbell	Celebrating Diversity	Third Place	Byron Center
Byron Center West Middle School, Janine Campbell	Healthy Choices	Judges Choice Award	Byron Center
C.A. Frost Elementary, Charlie Jansen	Healthy Choices	First Place	Grand Rapids
Downriver Detroit Student Film Consortium, Scott A. Galeski	Building Character	Judges Choice Award	Wyandotte
Holy Redeemer Grade School, Laura Ilov	Building Character	Third Place	Detroit
James T. Jones Elementary School, Sara Sholten	Building Character	First Place	Gladstone
Lakewood Middle School, Russ Miller	Celebrating Diversity	Second Place	Woodland
Parchment Middle School, Amanda Militzer	Healthy Choices	Second Place	Kalamazoo
SAMS Video Productions, Marcia Sgriccia	Celebrating Diversity	Judges Choice Award	Sault Ste. Marie
St. Michael Parish School, Jean Simon	Building Character	Second Place	Grand Ledge
St. Michael Parish School, Jean Simon	Celebrating Diversity	First Place	Grand Ledge
St. Michael Parish School, Jean Simon	Healthy Choices	Third Place	Grand Ledge