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Winners of 2023 Safety Kids Calendar Announced

Annual Event Sponsored By Summit County Prosecutor's Office

AKRON, Ohio (Monday, November 7, 2022) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today the winners of the 2023 Safety Kids Calendar contest, the 22nd year of the contest.

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, the ceremony was held in-person at the Akron-Summit Library on South High Street. Of the over 1,000 submissions from 10 different schools in Summit County, the grand prize winner was 13-year-old **Emmah Cottrill**, a 7th grader at Springfield Junior High School. Emmah's creativity and artwork on "Don't Do Drugs" told the story that drugs take away everything that you love.

The awards ceremony was held on Wednesday evening, November 2, 2022. Summit County Prosecutor's Office Community Outreach Prosecutor Tania Nemer, along with Keith Kennedy from Akron's 98.1-FM, hosted the event for the 53 winners and their families. Also, a special thank you to the Miller South School Choir for singing the National Anthem and "Lift Every Voice and Sing" at the event.

"Reviewing these wonderfully artistic posters is such a joy. Each student puts so much creativity into their work. I truly am so impressed with their dedication to making these outstanding depictions of my 12 safety rules," said Prosecutor Walsh. "Thank you to everyone who participated. I especially want to thank Keith Kennedy, the Miller South School Choir, and Tania Nemer for all their work in this year's ceremony."

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Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders from Summit County submitted posters following the Summit County Prosecutor's Office's 12 Ways To Stay Safe.

In addition to the 12 Ways to Stay Safe, the contest includes two additional categories called "Prosecutor Picks". This is the fourth-year additional posters were chosen for either their humor or creative message.

Each of the first-place posters will be featured in the 2023 Safety Kids Calendar and on billboards throughout Summit County. Winning posters were submitted from the following schools: Springfield Junior High School, Litchfield CLC, Green Middle School, Bolich Middle School, Mayfair Christian School, Tallmadge Middle School, St. Hilary School, Our Lady of the Elms, Holy Family, and Nordonias Middle School.

The winners are:

Grand Prize: Emmah Cottrill, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

Rule: Don't Do Drugs

1st Place: Hadleigh Wertin, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Emma Thomas, 6th Grade, Litchfield CLC

3rd Place: Ella Giardina, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Rule: Trust Yourself – Don't Give In To Peer Pressure

1st Place: Ava Burkhalter, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

2nd Place: Aleah Castro, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

3rd Place: Leah Dang, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Leannah Swiger, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

Rule: Don't Use Alcohol

1st Place: Jordyn Hilliard, 7th Grade, Nordonias Middle School

2nd Place: Meely Luby, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

3rd Place: Ashley Cermak, 7th Grade, Nordonias Middle School

Honorable Mention: Nicholas Wygle, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Rule: Never Play With Guns

1st Place: Setara Horne, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High

2nd Place: Aiden Ketterman, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

3rd Place: Logan Parrish, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: McKenna Langham, 7th Grade, Nordonias Middle School

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Rule: Don't Smoke or Vape

1st Place: Rayne Salmos, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Hailey Eaton, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Cade McCann, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Maliyah Oliver, 7th Grade, Litchfield CLC

Rule: Safeguard Your Personal Information Online – Think Twice Before You Post

1st Place: Abigail Alberta, 8th Grade, Holy Family School

2nd Place: Isla Sullivan, 7th Grade, Bolich Middle School

3rd Place: Gianna Reville, 7th Grade, Nordonina Middle School

Honorable Mention: Natalie Husser, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Rule: Don't Talk To Or Go With Anyone You Don't Know

1st Place: Chloe Heim, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Abby McCarron, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

3rd Place: Ku Say Paw, 8th Grade, Mayfair Christian School

Honorable Mention: Emily Millette, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Rule: Say NO To Unwanted Touch

1st Place: Kate Heller, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

2nd Place: Brenda Poland, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

3rd Place: Elisabeth Kelley, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Serena Rista, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Rule: Never Tell Anyone You Are Home Alone

1st Place: Cassie Bishop, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Riley Hazlett, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

3rd Place: Kinsey Roberts, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

Honorable Mention: Grace Kemple, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms

Rule: Say NO To Gangs

1st Place: Macy Freimuth, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

2nd Place: Isaac Ternosky, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

3rd Place: Myah Hale, 6th Grade, Litchfield CLC

Honorable Mention: Morgan Hunt, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

Rule: Stop Bullies In Their Tracks – Always Tell An Adult

1st Place: Darian Ramsey, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High

2nd Place: Yaminah Adekunle, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Rihana Marie Jones, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

Honorable Mention: Scarlett Anderson, 6th Grade, Litchfield CLC

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Rule: Violence At Home Is Never Okay – Your Home Should Be A Safe Place

1st Place: Eva Arnold, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Carol Anna Crabiel, 7th Grade, Holy Family School

3rd Place: Lucy Zwisler, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Alina Adkins, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High

PROSECUTOR’S PICKS – Creative Message Category

Liomi Ekema, 6th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms

Lillian Olmstead, 6th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms

PROSECUTOR’S PICKS – Humorous Category

Haylee Romer, 8th Grade, Bolich Middle School

Vivian Wilson, 7th Grade, Bolich Middle School

Ile Wilmoth, 8th Grade, Mayfair Christian School