



Elliot Kolkovich

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Winners of 2025 Safety Kids Calendar Announced

Annual Event Sponsored By the Summit County Prosecutor's Office

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, November 14, 2024) – Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich announced today the winners of the 2025 Safety Kids Calendar contest, the 24th year of the contest.

Of the over 1,000 submissions from 13 different schools in Summit County, the grand prize winner was 13-year-old **Makayla Craig**, an 8th grader at Nordonia Middle School. Makayla's creativity and artwork for the "Don't Give into Peer Pressure" category said "it's boring to be like everyone else" and showed different types of leaves. Makayla's poster will be on the front cover of the 2025 Safety Kids Calendar!

The awards ceremony was held on Wednesday evening, November 13, 2024, at the Akron-Summit Library. Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich hosted the event for the 54 winners and their families and presented congratulatory certificates and Amazon gift cards. 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.

"I had such a great time going through the posters. The students' posters were so creative with positive messages about being safe. Their dedication and thoughtfulness were impressive," said Prosecutor Kolkovich. "Thank you to everyone who participated. Also, a special thank you to the Miller South School Choir for their work in this year's ceremony."

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Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders from Summit County schools 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 sixth-year additional posters were chosen for either their humor or creative message.

Each of the first-place posters will be featured in the 2025 Safety Kids Calendar and on billboards throughout Summit County. The grand prize and first-place winners and their posters will also be included in a PSA with Prosecutor Kolkovich that will air on WBNX-TV 55 during the holidays. Winning posters were submitted from the following schools: Bolich Middle School, Green Middle School, Holy Family School, Hyre CLC, Our Lady of the Elms, Roberts Middle School, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Woodridge Middle School, Schrop Intermediate, Mogadore Junior High, Nordonia Middle School, Springfield Junior High School, and Tallmadge Middle School.

The winners are:

Grand Prize: Makayla Craig, 8th Grade, Nordonia Middle School

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

1st Place: Dannee Ritchey, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Allyson Hoyt, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Elliot Campbell, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Rule: Don't Do Drugs

1st Place: Aubrie Giner, 7th Grade, Hyre CLC

2nd Place: Adrian Budacov, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

3rd Place: Maddie Jameson, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: Brynn Ingham, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Rule: Don't Use Alcohol

1st Place: Violet Sanderson, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Hannah Nguyen, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms

3rd Place: Caylie McClure, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Alyssa Rowley, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Rule: Never Play With Guns

1st Place: Chase Trejbal, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Izzy Stratton, 8th Grade, Holy Family School

3rd Place: Penelope Roettger, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Honorable Mention: Katie Strate, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Rule: Don't Smoke or Vape

1st Place: Cameron Royer, 6th Grade, Mogadore Junior High School

2nd Place: Ella Gooden, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Ryleigh Duncan, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Wesley Blake, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

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

1st Place: Jasleen Garha, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Reese Hazlett, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

3rd Place: Aiden Schoonover, 7th Grade, Immaculate Heart of Mary

Honorable Mention: Parker Pluto, 7th Grade, Immaculate Heart of Mary

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

1st Place: Alyssa Finasa, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Brielle Pekarek, 8th Grade, Immaculate Heart of Mary

3rd Place: Gabbie Kelley, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Honorable Mention: Owen Kiser, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Rule: Say NO To Unwanted Touch

1st Place: Kayleigh Edman, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High

2nd Place: Sophia LeGalley, 7th Grade, Woodridge Middle School

3rd Place: Alexis Marxen, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

Honorable Mention: Leah McArthur, 8th Grade, Roberts Middle School

Rule: Never Tell Anyone You Are Home Alone

1st Place: Evangelina Neri, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

2nd Place: Phoebe Smith, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Chloe Moke, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Honorable Mention: Ashlynn Graham, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Rule: Say NO To Gangs

1st Place: Isbowl Chamlagai, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Anna Shull, 6th Grade, Mogadore Junior High School

3rd Place: Paige Volk, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: Corbin Zehner, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

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

1st Place: Violet Vacha, 7th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Michael Whitehead, 6th Grade, Mogadore Junior High School

3rd Place: John Jones, 7th Grade, Bolich Middle School

Honorable Mention: Lucas Vila, 7th Grade, Bolich Middle School

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

1st Place: Martina Crnogorac, 7th Grade, Hyre CLC

2nd Place: Faith Wagner, 7th Grade, Bolich Middle School

3rd Place: Sophia Minne, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Kiesha Ortiz, 6th Grade, Roberts Middle School

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PROSECUTOR'S PICKS – Creative Message Category

Zoey Davis, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms

Nyair Russ, 8th Grade, Nordonía Middle School

Leah Walters, 6th Grade, Roberts Middle School

PROSECUTOR'S PICKS – Humorous Category

Ramone Flores, 7th Grade, Nordonía Middle School

Cheyenne Witte, 7th Grade, Hyre CLC

Carly Yanok, 8th Grade, Nordonía Middle School

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