

2015-16 VHSL CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST RESULTS

Folder

1. Oakton HS
2. George Washington HS
3. Appomattox Reg. Gov. Sch.
4. Woodbridge Senior HS
5. Maggie Walker Gov. Sch.
6. James Robinson Sec. Sch.
7. Harrisonburg (tie)
Thomas Jefferson HS S & T (tie)
Tazewell HS (tie)

Essay

- First: "Rules", Camille Moore, Appomattox Regional Gov. Sch.
- Second: "From Your Friendly Neighborhood Feminist", Marriya Schwartz, Oakton
- Third: "Shadow Boxing", Katherine Brown, Woodbridge Senior HS
- Honorable Mention: "The Journey of Self-Searching", Savannah De Cid, Sherando HS

Short Story

- First: "Rough Revolution", IsMonie Davis, George Washington HS
- Second: "I Love You, Peter Harper", Brenda Hayes, Maggie Walker Gov. Sch.
- Third: "Gee Whiz", Carling Ramsdell, James Robinson Sec. Sch.
- Honorable Mention: "A Note on the Nature of My Experience with Gods", Courtney Cline, Tazewell HS

Poetry

- First: "Accent Marks", Aline Dolinh, Oakton HS
- Second: "When You Say PTSD", Taylor Petty, Woodbridge Senior HS
- Third: "Mother Tries", Rachel Snyder, Harrisonburg HS
- Honorable Mention: "Schoolgirls", Emma Banks, Appomattox Regional Gov. Sch.

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Total Entries – 28

S = Superior, E = Excellent, G = Good

<u>School</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Essay Ratings</u>	<u>Story Ratings</u>	<u>Poem Ratings</u>
Appomattox Regional Gov. Sch.	Cindy Cunningham	S & G	G & E	E & S
Blacksburg HS	Matthew Spring	G & G	E & E	S & G
Castlewood HS	Dominique Traverse Locke	G & E	G & G	E & G
Charlottesville HS	Brian Kayser	G & G	G & G	G & E
Dinwiddie	A. Scott Brockwell	G & G	G & G	G & E
Graham HS	Debra Tabor Brewster	G & G	G & G	G & G
Harrisonburg HS	Richard Morrell	E & E	G & E	S & G
Thomas Jefferson HS for S/T	Jennifer Seavey	S & S	E & E	S & G
Liberty HS-Beaeton	Timothy Bambara	E & G	G & G	G & E
Manchester HS	Rebecca Lynch	G & G	G & G	E & E
Mountain View HS	Melony Star Kiesau	G & G	G & G	E & S
New Kent HS	Alison Pushie	G & E	G & G	S & E
Oakton HS	Susan Sullivan	E & S	G & G	S & G
Prince Edward County HS	Rachel Overstreet	G & G	G & G	G & E
Ridgeview HS	Robin Charles	E & E	G & G	G & E
James Robinson Sec. Sch.	Crosby Mouzavires	E & E	G & S	E & E
Salem HS-Salem	Fred Campbell	E & E	E & G	G & G
Sherando HS	Trevor Johnson	S & G	G & G	G & G
South County HS	Troy Ketch	E & E	G & G	E & G
Tabb HS	Melinda Schenkkan	S & E	G & G	E & E
Tazewell HS	Robert McGraw	S & E	S & E	G & E
Varina HS	Matthew Cullen	G & E	E & E	E & G
Maggie Walker Gov. Sch.	Lisa Williams	S & S	G & S	G & G
George Washington HS	Sharon Leigg	S & S	G & S	S & S
Westfield HS	Kimberly Watkins	E & G	G & G	E & E
James Wood HS	Rhonda Lancaster	G & G	E & G	G & G
Woodbridge Senior HS	Cathy Hailey	E & S	G & G	S & G
George Wythe HS-Wytheville	Lorna King	G & G	E & G	S & E

Comments from Poetry Judges

I was so pleased to be one of the judges for this wonderful contest. The variety of subjects chosen by the students was wide ranging, sometimes making it difficult to compare them. But what was most impressive was the maturity apparent in each student's approach to his or her chosen topic. Many portrayed situations far beyond the usual concerns of teenaged students and each was handled with eloquence and sensitivity. Most of us tend to focus only on our own lives and activities. It's a gift to be able to see the world so clearly through the eyes of others. With so many thought provoking entries, choosing the top poems was difficult. I hope all the entrants will continue with their writing. As good as these poems were, it would be exciting to see what these students might write in the future.

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It was an honor to be a part of the VHSL 2015-16 Creative Writing Competition. The talent represented among these young poets is astounding! I found myself critiquing some of these pieces as if they were work from colleagues instead of students – the caliber of the poems was that good. While many students tackled topics traditional to youth – heartache, self-doubt – others reached out and showed a mature empathy with the world we live in, trying to untangle through words some of the thornier issues of our time. For me, this is where great poetry always strives.