



STRENGTH IN UNITY

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Sweet Home Student Wins First Place in Statewide Mayors Contest

SALEM, Ore. – **Madalyn Coleman, a Sweet Home 5th grade student from Enlightium Academy Home School**, won the first-place prize for her poster in the Oregon Mayors Association's (OMA) "If I Were Mayor..." civic awareness contest.

Each year, students statewide compete in three age groups using different media, describing what it would mean if they were the mayor of their city. Posters are designed by 4th and 5th grade students, 6th through 8th grade students write essays, and 9th through 12th grade students produce a short video or other digital media presentation.

The competition begins with a local contest conducted by mayors. The local first-place winners are entered in the state-level competition in the spring, which is judged by members of the OMA Judging Committee. Fifteen cities participated in this year's contest at the local level, with 26 entries being forwarded to the state-level competition.

As a first-place winner, Madalyn will receive a check for \$500.00. Other first-place prize winners in the state competition were:

- **Essay – Harrison Swift, 7th grader from Redmond Proficiency Academy in Redmond; and**
- **Video/Digital Media – Chaela Baker, 12th grader, also from Redmond Proficiency Academy.**

Second-place winners in this year's statewide contest, each receiving a check for \$300.00, were:

- **Poster – Kaide Price, 4th grader, from Imlay Elementary School in Hillsboro;**
- **Essay – Hallie Jones, 6th grader from Rosemont Ridge Middle School in West Linn; and**
- **Video/Digital Media – Kourtney Owens, 12th grader from Cottage Grove High School.**

Third-place prize winners in the statewide contest, each receiving a check for \$100.00 were:

- **Poster – Averí Gustafson, 5th grader from Tom McCall Elementary in Forest Grove;**
- **Essay – Lilyana Oien, 6th grader from Happy Valley Middle School in Happy Valley; and**
- **Video/Digital Media – Cecily Cooper, 10th grader from Crook County High School, Prineville.**

This year's first, second, and third-place prizes were provided through a generous donation from **PacificCorp**.

Entries may be viewed on the OMA web page at www.oregonmayors.org/special-programs/page/student-contest.

About the Oregon Mayors Association

Founded in 1972, the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) is a voluntary association of persons who hold the office of mayor. OMA is recognized as an affiliate organization in cooperation with the League of Oregon Cities. Over two-thirds of Oregon's mayors are active members of OMA.

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