

Delaware Department of State / Delaware Division of Libraries

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State Winners Announced in National Reading and Writing Contest for Young Readers

(Dover, Del.) – The Delaware Center for the Book and the Delaware Division of Libraries are pleased to announce the state winners in the Letters About Literature essay contest. This signature program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in partnership with Target Stores, inspires young people to write to an author whose work changed their view of themselves or the world. This year, 735 entries were received statewide.

Delaware's first place winners, Ariana Acosta, Aaron Jennings, and Catherine Getz will each receive a \$50 Target GiftCard, \$100 cash prize, and a certificate. Additionally, each winner will select a library to receive a \$100 Collection Development Grant for the purchase of library materials. Ariana Acosta chose Christ the Teacher Catholic School Library in Newark; Aaron Jennings chose Bear Library in Bear; and Catherine Getz chose Sussex Technical High School Library in Georgetown. The Letters About Literature awards will be presented during the annual awards ceremony held at each winner's school.

All prizes are funded through the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

DELAWARE WINNERS

Level One Winner (Grades 4 – 6)

Ariana Acosta – Christ the Teacher School, Newark

Author/Book: S.E. Hinton, *The Outsiders*

Level Two Winner (Grades 7 & 8)

Aaron Jennings – Gauger Cobbs Middle School, Newark

Author/Book: Margaret Peterson Haddix, *Among the Imposters*

Level Three Winner (Grades 9 – 12)

Catherine Getz – Sussex Technical High School, Georgetown

Author/Book: Jandy Nelson, *The Sky in Everywhere*

DELAWARE HONORABLE MENTIONS

Level One Honorable Mentions (Grades 4 – 6)

Katie Anne Dick (Home), Grace Johnston (Sanford School), Kathryn Klebon (Shue-Medill Middle School), Michelle LaFranca (Shue-Medill Middle School), Natalie Onesi (Ursuline Academy)

Level Two Honorable Mentions (Grades 7 & 8)

Wini Dandu (Gauger Cobbs Middle School), Katie Houser (Ursuline Academy), Rebecca Bussard (Ursuline Academy), Liam Carpenter-Urquhart (Nativity Preparatory of Wilmington), Shannon Babcock (Sanford Middle School), Amanda Kucharzyk (Academic Challenge Program), and Matthew Rogers (Academic Challenge Program)

Level Three Honorable Mentions (Grades 9-12)

Hope Kaczynski (Sussex Tech High School), Alexandra Furtado (Sussex Tech High School), Cody Dow (Delaware Military Academy), Nick Stasio (Delaware Military Academy), Kaylyn Talmo (Delaware Military Academy), Anthony Patone (Delaware Military Academy), and Tyler Quick (Delaware Military Academy)