



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

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Secretary of State Jesse White Honors Organ/Tissue Donor Poster Contest Winners

SPRINGFIELD-- Secretary of State Jesse White honored four Illinois students who were the winners of the 19th Organ/Tissue Donor Poster Contest at a ceremony in his Statehouse office today.

The overall winner was Laia Monells Costan, a senior at Quincy Senior High School. Laia, a foreign exchange student from Spain, received a \$100 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble and a certificate of congratulations and a personalized Illinois Blue Book from Secretary White for designing the best poster in the state. In addition, copies of her poster will be displayed throughout the state.

"I want to congratulate Laia for designing this year's top poster," White said. "Her poster will be used to help promote organ and tissue donation as we proudly display copies of it in Secretary of State Drivers' Service facilities, hospitals, libraries and other locations throughout Illinois."

The students who won the other age categories each received a \$50 gift certificate from Barnes and Noble and were given certificate of congratulations and a personalized Illinois Blue Book from Secretary White. Winners were selected from four age groups: grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-12. The four winning poster designs were chosen from thousands of entries sent in by students throughout Illinois. The poster contest is sponsored by the Secretary of State and the Donate Life Illinois Coalition.

"I would like to congratulate each of our winners as well as all the students who designed posters," said White. "These students displayed their artistic talents while also helping raise awareness for a life-saving program."

Winners of each age category for this year's organ and tissue donor poster contest are:

Winners:

K-2nd grade category:

Rocco Bartolini, 2nd grader, 8 years old, Luther Burbank Elementary School, Burbank

3rd-5th grade category:

Anabel Bodine, 4th grade, 10 years old, Central Jr. High School, Kewanee

6th-8th grade category:

Malina Overholt, 7th grade, 12 years old, Georgetowne Middle School, Marquette Heights

9th-12th grade category (overall winner):

Laia Monells Costan, senior, 17 years old, Quincy Senior High School, Quincy

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