



**Susan Bysiewicz**  
Secretary of the State  
Connecticut

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- PRESS RELEASE -

## **BYSIEWICZ HONORS DOZENS OF 10 YEAR- OLDS FROM ACROSS CONNECTICUT FOR THEIR AWARD WINNING POSTERS**

### CONNECTICUT'S POSTER CHILDREN: BLENDING ART WITH A MESSAGE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

**Hartford** – Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz joined dozens of 4<sup>th</sup> graders from across Connecticut on Friday June 5<sup>th</sup> in the Old Judiciary Room at the State Capitol Hartford for an awards ceremony honoring the winners of the Secretary of the State's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Poster Contest. Secretary Bysiewicz honored 25 students – selected from a field of more than 1,000 entrants – for their posters depicting acts of good citizenship happening in their community.

“We have reviewed more than 11,000 posters since this contest began more than a decade ago,” said Bysiewicz, “and this year’s winners should be proud that their works are among the very best.”

The top five posters came from students in the towns of Colebrook, Stonington, Wallingford, Norwalk, and Simsbury and included the following themes: voting, protecting the environment, recycling, neighborhood cleanup, participating in community, being a respectful and responsible citizen, and volunteering for charities.

“After years of sagging interest and political participation, young people registered by the thousands to vote in last year’s election and are becoming re-engaged in civic life,” said Bysiewicz. “If we really want to get younger people more involved, we must engage them early and often. This poster contest is a great way to do that – to get students thinking about how they can each be good citizens.”

Five winning posters were selected from divisions established by the Office of the Secretary of the State. Each division consisted of a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner, along with two students who received honorable mention. Every student honored at Friday’s

event received a \$25 gift certificate from Barnes & Noble bookstore and a copy of Ella: A Biography of Governor Ella Grasso autographed by Secretary Bysiewicz.

Student information is listed below:

Office of the Secretary of the State's  
2009 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster Contest Winners  
"Good Citizenship is Happening in My Community"

**Congressional District 1**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Katharine Jessen – Colebrook Consolidated School, Colebrook
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Ximina Juaree – Greene Hills School, Bristol
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Quim O'Donnell – Greene Hills School, Bristol
Honorable Mention	Natalie Smith – Buttonball Lane School, Glastonbury
Honorable Mention	Ashley Yung – Greene Hills School, Bristol

**Congressional District 2**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Julie Little & Sarah Glasfeld – Pine Point School, Stonington
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Lauren Fairchild – Korn School, Durham
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Vanessa Gumbs – Quaker Hill School, Quaker Hill
Honorable Mention	Sydonie Merrell – G.H. Robertson School, Coventry
Honorable Mention	Nora Khalil – Korn School, Durham

**Congressional District 3**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Madison Murphy-Shanahan – E.C. Stevens Elementary, Wallingford
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Sandy Nguyen – R.W. Carbone School, East Haven
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Alexa Battogolino – R.W. Carbone School, East Haven
Honorable Mention	Shyan Moody-Hicks – Wilcoxson Elementary, Stratford
Honorable Mention	Stephen Martindale – R.W. Carbone School, East Haven

**Congressional District 4**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Ashley Simko – Marvin Elementary School, Norwalk
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Erin Welch – Tashua Elementary School, Trumbull
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Charlie Doyle – Marvin Elementary School, Norwalk
Honorable Mention	Madeline Duarte – Marvin Elementary School, Norwalk
Honorable Mention	Camila Acosta – Marvin Elementary School, Norwalk

**Congressional District 5**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jennifer Falkner – Squadron Line School, Simsbury
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Amanda Karpe – Latimer Lane School, Weatogue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Alivia Araniti – Squadron Line School, Simsbury
Honorable Mention	Lucy Merriam – Latimer Lane School, Weatogue
Honorable Mention	Lauren Hughes – Squadron Line School, Weatogue

**Photos of winners available upon request.**