



WALWORTH COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

WALWORTH COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL
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JUNE 2020

WINNING WORDS COMPETITION

Each year, Walworth County Arts Council sponsors a county-wide competition in writing, seeking to recognize outstanding student writers who attend Walworth County high schools.

The WCAC works with high school English teachers and through that cooperative effort, students enter their writing in the category of prose and/or poetry. Student entries are evaluated by a panel of judges and cash prizes are awarded to the top three in each category. First place winners receive \$300, second place winners receive \$200, and third place winners receive \$100.

Our 2020 Winning Words writers are:

Poetry

- 1st place, Natalie Green, Elkhorn Area High School
- 2nd place, Skylar Staebler, Whitewater High School
- 3rd place, Jeanette Erchul, Whitewater High School

Prose

- 1st place, Josephine Treder, Whitewater HS
- 2nd place, Mina Truesdale, Whitewater High School
- 3rd place, Jillian Gibbs, Whitewater High School

This was a challenging year to engage Walworth County high school students in our writing competition because schools have been closed since March due to the coronavirus. However, we found a way to connect with the teachers and students and we are thankful to those who served on our panel of judges. WCAC member Carol Dinsmore coordinated the entire program and without her persistence and dedication this year's program would not have happened. Thank you, Carol!

Maya Angelou gave some inspiring advice to writers in her book, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. She said, "Words mean more than what is set down on paper. It takes the human voice to infuse them with shades of deeper meaning." Natalie Green of Elkhorn Area High School was our first-place poetry winner and it is clear that as a writer, Natalie's words on the paper go from the brain and follow a direct line to the heart.

Where the Wall Meets the Door Natalie Greene Elkhorn Area High School

*I sat looking at the point
Where the dull wall
With lazy strokes of paint
Beginning to dwindle and decay,
Meets the anchored down door
That golden morning light
Spills through and onto the cold floor,
The soft echo of your natural laugh
Captures my disquieted mind,
And I thought I might join you,
But I'm held by invisible chains of lead.*

*Moored to the ground by the fear
That I don't belong in there,
I settled for right here.
I stay fixed to my chair,
Gazing at the unyielding space
Where the wall meets the door,
Assuming you've been anointed
With this gift I have not been granted.
So, I'm stuck wallowing in my gloom
While you're laughing,
Happily confined in that room.*

2020 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

For 52 years, the Walworth County Arts Council has been supporting access to the arts for Walworth County citizens of all ages. A primary mission of the Council is to provide educational opportunities in the arts. Each year we offer competitive \$1,000 scholarships in the areas of visual arts, music, dance and theater to graduating Walworth County high school seniors who are planning careers in those areas.

The Walworth County Arts Council has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to three Walworth County high school seniors. Zane Gallagher from Badger High School received WCAC's theater scholarship. He will be attending University of Wisconsin – Whitewater at Rock County and UW La Crosse majoring in secondary education in both theater and chemistry. This degree will enable Zane to reach his career goals in theater and education. Nell Ritchey from Big Foot High School was selected as WCAC's dance scholarship recipient. Nell will be attending Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Dance program. A BFA in dance from a major Big-10 university will enable Nell to reach her career goals of performing in a major dance company and creating dance through choreography. WCAC's visual art scholarship recipient, Saige Heelein (a Walworth County resident) from Burlington High School, will be attending Bradley University majoring in User Experience Design with a minor in Graphic Design and Studio Art. This degree will enable Saige to reach her career goals in visual arts.

We congratulate these high school seniors as they enter the world of artistry in the creative and education sectors. Conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein once said, "It's the artists of the world, the feelers and thinkers, who will ultimately save us; who can articulate, educate, defy, insist, sing and shout about the big dreams." We support Zane, Nell and Saige as they enter the world of the arts seeking to achieve the big dreams.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

In the past, our yearly membership came due on an individual basis. The Walworth County Arts Council Board sought to streamline our yearly membership by moving all members to a July 1 – June 30 membership schedule. If you have sent membership dues or donations anytime in 2020, you will be a member until June 30, 2021.

WCAC's membership campaign starts the month of June. The membership form can be found at the end of this newsletter. It is also on our website where you can download/print the membership form and send to us through the mail. <http://walworthcountyartscouncil.com/join-now/> At this time, we can only take a check for dues and donations.

Your membership and donations support arts experiences for children such as sponsoring the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra School Day Concerts for elementary students and \$1,000 scholarships in Dance, Music, Theater and Visual Art for graduating Walworth County high school seniors.

Please consider supporting our 501c3 nonprofit organization that is focused on education and access in the arts for children and adults in Walworth County.



The Walworth County Arts Council is a non-profit educational organization of individuals and groups united by an appreciation of the arts and interested in supporting and promoting their creation, performance, study and display. The purpose of the Council is to foster outlets for creative expression and to encourage a better understanding of the benefits of the arts. A specific goal is expanding all opportunities in the arts in schools.



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NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL (please check member level)

BENEFACTOR \$1,000 **SPONSOR \$250 to \$999** **PATRON \$100 TO \$249**

SUPPORTER \$50 to \$99 **SUSTAINER: Couple \$35** **SUSTAINER: Individual \$25**

Help us go green! Please check here if you would like all communication via email _____

Make check out to Walworth County Arts Council and mail to – WCAC, P.O. Box 446, Delavan, WI 53115

*Walworth County Arts Council is a 501c3 organization and all donations are tax deductible.
Your membership and donation support our programs!*

WCAC Programs Providing Citizens of Walworth County Access to Arts Experiences

GOVERNMENT CENTER DISPLAY

Each month a WCAC display case at the Government Center in Elkhorn showcases an artist.

NEWSLETTERS

A periodic newsletter is sent to each member and friend of WCAC with information on upcoming programs and news of the Arts.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Four meetings each year provide for members and guests to enjoy a special venue with art, literary awards, musical or humorous program.

MILWAUKEE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

A six-concert Friday morning series subscription series provides travel by bus for a pre-concert lecture and optional *Lunch with the Stars*.

TOURS

Each year trips are planned to museums, art exhibits and historical sites in Walworth County and surrounding area.

ART FOR CHILDREN

The WCAC has a collection of more than 300 fine art prints which are loaned and displayed in school classrooms throughout the school year.

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL ART SHOW

In cooperation with Walworth County art teachers, WCAC sponsors an art exhibit of elementary and middle school students from Walworth County.

PERFORMING ARTS

WCAC sponsors the Lake Geneva Symphony school-day programs in Walworth County elementary schools. High school students are able to attend MSO concerts through the Lois Morava memorial fund.

VISITING ARTISTS

Local artists present hands-on workshops for Walworth County students at their school.

SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1000 scholarships in Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Theatre are awarded to qualified Walworth County high school seniors who will be pursuing higher education in these fields.

WINNING WORDS

An annual competition provides awards to high school students for excellence in writing prose and poetry.