

2016 Arbor Day School Poster Contest winners



Rain Vasey, a 5th-grader at Water Girl Farm Academy in Lincoln, won the Delaware Forest Service's 2016 Arbor Day School Poster Contest.

Each year, Delaware celebrates the last Friday in April as "Arbor Day," an occasion to plant trees and spotlight the numerous natural benefits that trees provide. First established in the United States by J. Sterling Morton in 1872 (almost a hundred years before Earth Day was introduced), an estimated one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the very first Arbor Day. Arbor Day observances are also an integral part of community recognition programs such as [Tree Campus USA](#), [Tree City USA](#), and Delaware's [Tree Friendly Community Award](#), as well as qualifying for a financial award from the [Urban Grant Program](#).

The Delaware Forest Service sponsors an annual Arbor Day School Poster Contest for Delaware schoolchildren in grades K to 5 for all public, private, home, and charter schools. The winners receive a tree planting at their school, a gift card, a tree-themed book, and an invitation for them and their family to attend the State Arbor Day event with Governor Markell on May 12. [Click here](#) to see (high-resolution) images of the [2016 Arbor Day Poster Contest Winners](#).

For more information, contact Ashley Peebles, 302-698-4551 or Ashley.Peebles@delaware.gov.

New Castle County Winners					
Kindergarten	Julianna Mendoza-Salinas	Gallaher Elementary – Newark			

Grade 1-2	Bradley Dunk	Jennie Smith Elementary – Newark
Grade 3-4	Krupa Movva	Linden Hill Elementary – Wilmington
Grade 5	Erin Danese	Christ the Teacher – Newark
Kent County Winners		
Kindergarten	Taylor Keener	Major George Welch Elementary – Dover
Grade 1-2	Julianna Williams	Sunnyside Elementary – Smyrna
Grade 3-4	Haley Holderman	W.B. Simpson Elementary – Wyoming
Grade 5	Farrah Charles	John Bassett Moore – Smyrna
Sussex County Winners		
Kindergarten	Nilam Siphavanh	Phillip C. Showell Elementary – Selbyville
Grade 1-2	Jasmin Malik	Richard Shields Elementary – Lewes
Grade 3-4	Samuel Winston	Winston Learning Academy – Milford
Grade 5	Rain Vasey	Water Girl Farm Academy – Lincoln