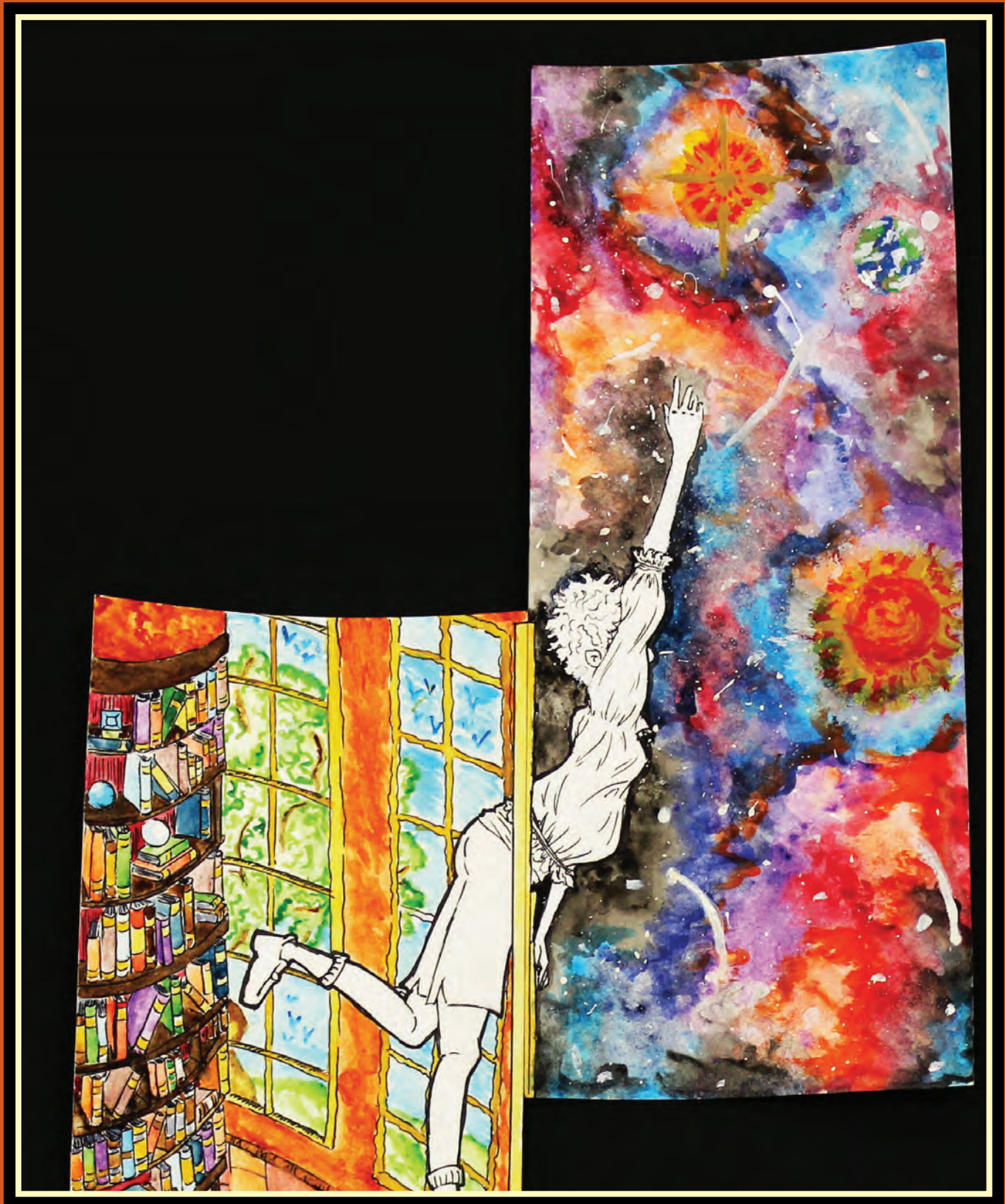


Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas

Friday, January 27, 2017 | 6:30 p.m.

Sunflower Ballroom, Maner Conference Center | 17th and Western | Topeka, Kansas



Painting Award Winner, Faith Bugar: "Reach"



Home on the Range HOME ON THE RANGE

—Dr. Brewster Higley

Oh, give me a home where the Buffalo roam
Where the Deer and the Antelope play;
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word,
And the sky is not cloudy all day.

Chorus:

Home, home on the range,
Where the deer and the antelope play;
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.

How often at night, when the heavens were bright,
With the light of the twinkling stars
Have I stood here amazed, and asked as I gazed,
If their glory exceeds that of ours.

Chorus:

Home, home on the range,
Where the deer and the antelope play;
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.



Kansan of the Year KANSAN OF THE YEAR



JAMES D. LATHAM
Brigadier General USAF (Retired)
KANSAN OF THE YEAR 2016

*J*im Latham retired from Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Fort Worth, Texas in 2014 where he was Director, International Business Development. He was responsible for developing the market for company products in Europe. He joined the company in 1998 after completing a 28-year career in the U.S. Air Force.

Jim was born in Sedalia, Missouri on June 26, 1946 to Dr. Raymond and Arline Latham. The family settled in Prairie Village, Kansas where his sister Janice and brother Dennet were born. The children attended Shawnee Mission East High School where Jim competed on the swimming team. After graduation, he attended Kansas State University where he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity; lettered on the KSU swimming team for four years; and served as the President of the University Intra-Fraternity Council for a year. But his most notable college experience was meeting his future wife of more than 43 years, Sue Beach, from Pierceville, Kansas. He graduated in February 1969 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology and

received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force through K-State's Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He entered Air Force Pilot Training at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma in March, 1969.

As a command pilot, Jim was involved with tactical fighter aircraft operations during most of his career in the Air Force. He flew two combat tours during the Vietnam War in the OV-10 and F-4; commanded an F-16 squadron; two fighter wings; and the composite wing in Saudi Arabia responsible for enforcing the no-fly zone over Southern Iraq. He flew as Right Wingman for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Air Demonstration Squadron in 1979/80 in the T-38 aircraft and was Commander and Leader of the team in 1982/83 when they transitioned to the F-16. Jim's last assignment in the Air Force was serving as the Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force for International Affairs. He was responsible for formulating and integrating U.S. Air Force policy with regards to politico-military affairs, security assistance, technology and information disclosure issues and attaché affairs in support of U.S. government objectives.

His notable staff assignments include serving as Commandant of the US Air Force Squadron Officers School and Commandant of the US Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He is a

150 Years of Excellence 150 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
150 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Since its founding, the University of Kansas has embodied the aspirations and determination of the abolitionists who settled on the curve of the Kaw River in August, 1854. Their first goal was to ensure that the new Kansas Territory entered the union as a free state. Another was to establish a university.

Today, KU has become a major public research and teaching institution of 28,401 students and 2,600 faculty on five campuses (Lawrence, Kansas City, Overland Park, Wichita, and Salina). Its diverse elements are united by their mission to educate leaders, build healthy communities and make discoveries that change the world.

A member of the prestigious Association of American Universities since 1909, KU consistently earns high rankings for its academic programs. Its faculty and students are supported and strengthened by endowment assets of more than \$1.44 billion. It is committed to expanding innovative research and commercialization programs.

KU has 13 schools, including the only schools of pharmacy and medicine in the state and offers more than 370 degree programs. Particularly strong are special education, city management, speech-language pathology, rural medicine, clinical child psychology, nursing, occupational therapy and social welfare. Students, split almost equally between women and men, come from all 50 states and 105 countries and are about 15 percent multicultural. The University Honors Program is nationally recognized and KU has produced 26 Rhodes Scholars, more than all other Kansas schools combined.

The University of Kansas Cancer Center is the state's only designated National Cancer Institute. Eleven other major centers oversee research in life span issues, the humanities, transportation, the environment, biosciences, biodiversity, and polar ice sheets, among others.

Ten core service laboratories and two affiliated centers specialize in such fields as biomedical research, molecular structures, technology commercialization and oil recovery. KU has service centers statewide that offer training and professional development in law enforcement, firefighting, child development, health education and public management.

Essay Winners

ESSAY WINNERS

The Kansas Factual Story Contest encourages the preservation in writing of factual, unpublished anecdotes and happenings in the lives of Kansans. The winners receive a \$500 cash award provided by Mary Lynn Oliver of Wichita.

OLIVE ANN BEECH "KANSAS FACTUAL STORY" ESSAY CONTEST 2016 WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

"Rosie Meets Kansas"
– by *Mary Hanson*
Hoyt, Kansas

SECOND PLACE

"While the City Slept..."
– by *Kenton Kersting*
Offerle, Kansas

THIRD PLACE

"How Could She Think She Was Dumb?"
– by *Ginger Ann Cullen*
Haysville, Kansas

HONORABLE MENTION

"The Double Rodeo Disaster"
– by *Roger Heineken*
Emporia, Kansas

HONORABLE MENTION

"An Angel in Disguise"
– by *Sheryl Brenn*
Levant, Kansas

The late Mamie Boyd of Mankato and Phillipsburg was an early day newspaperwoman who coined the phrase, "Kansas! Say it Above a Whisper". In 1976, Mrs. Boyd's family chose to honor her by initiating an annual essay contest for Kansas students, grade 8 through 12.

MAMIE BOYD "KANSAS! SAY IT ABOVE A WHISPER" ESSAY CONTEST 2016 WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

"Kansas! Say It Above A Whisper"
– by *Morgan Belknap*
Easton, Kansas

SECOND PLACE

"Kansas! Say It Above A Whisper"
– by *Hannah Owens*
Winchester, Kansas

THIRD PLACE

"Kansas Day"
– by *Elsi Miller*
Great Bend, Kansas

HONORABLE MENTION

"Pride of Kansas"
– by *T. Elliott Clay*
Leavenworth, Kansas

HONORABLE MENTION

"We Are Kansas"
– by *Reid Herken*
Leavenworth, Kansas

Beech “Kansas Factual Story” Rosie Meets Kansas

– by Mary Hanson, Hoyt, Kansas

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After weeks of anticipation, the letter finally arrived. My daughter, Clare, would learn the name of her first college roommate. Clare had enrolled at Benedictine College in Atchison and had allowed the school to choose her roommate. As she ripped open the envelope, she skimmed through the words to find the name, Rosie McShane; Phoenix, Arizona. Clare had never traveled to Arizona and pondered what it would be like to live with someone that had grown up in a big city, far away from Kansas. Immediately, Clare texted Rosie and the two began talking about which one of them would bring the mini-fridge, who would bring the microwave, and learning a little more about each other. Rosie would be attending Benedictine on a soccer scholarship and had learned about the college from a family friend. Prior to Rosie’s college visit earlier that year, she had never been to Kansas. Their first conversations were full of questions, particularly Rosie’s concern for tornadoes. Of course, Rosie had visions of frequent tornadoes and the destruction they caused, like on the Wizard of Oz. Clare reassured her, that as a life-long Kansan, she had never even personally witnessed a tornado and although there had been some happen close by, not to worry, Kansas had basements! I remember Clare being struck and somewhat amused by Rosie’s concern on this topic, one that Clare hadn’t put much thought into.

As time went on and the two girls were still getting to know each other, Clare invited Rosie, as well as their new friend, Katie, to stay at our

house during their Fall break that October. We lived just 45 minutes away from school in Hoyt, Kansas and welcomed the group of girls. As Rosie was too far from home to spend her break there, she happily accepted the invitation and agreed to come and experience life in Kansas, on our 220 acre farm. At times, Clare and her two sisters would complain about being bored living out in the country with no close neighbors and not a lot going on. Rosie, on the other hand, was a big city girl and was fascinated by the slow paced, rural life. She arrived at our farm and was in awe of the vast land. She commented about there being so few houses around and no stores close by. That weekend these college girls, as well my other two daughters, stayed outside almost the entire time, jumping on hay bales, wandering through the pastures, playing with our goats, and watching the cattle graze on the land. The girls even took a trip down to our pond where they built a fort together in the trees and recorded videos on their phones to remember all their adventures together. They experienced a beautiful Kansas sunset.

As I watched the girls that beautiful Fall weekend of 2014, I realized that our family had impacted Rosie in a special way. We had introduced her to experiences she had never had before, ones that we often took for granted. Her child-like excitement and curiosity gave me pause and it made me really appreciate the lifestyle we enjoy in the Midwest. Rosie met Kansas that weekend and in turn gave us all a new appreciation for our simple, rural life.



After several seconds of secure silence, Harold continued, "Son, I don't care whether you smoke or not. Hell, I'll buy you a pack of whatever you do smoke. My question really is: if you were out there for whatever reason, did you see a train sittin' on the track siding?"

"Chesterfields."

"Sorry, son?"

"I wanna pack of Chesterfields."

Harold was getting somewhere. "Done!"

"Yeah, there was a train, a pretty big one—eleven cars, some with lights on—just sittin' there, burning steam. I had just lit up when guys with flashlights jumped our fence, rushing me like I'd robbed a bank. They ordered me back inside the house, so I watched from the window upstairs. At one point, the guys walking the fields around the train moved to the back side. Some people came outta the back car on the open platform pushing someone in a wheelchair. Most all of 'em lit cigarettes. Hell! And, they was upset 'bout my smokin'. After a bit, the ones on the train went back in, and the guys on the ground went back to the fields 'round the train."

"Son, come by the newspaper later today. I'll have three packs of Chesterfields for you!"

The Lewis Press, October 15, 1936

Excitement ran high in Lewis Tuesday morning when word spread that the Presidential Special carrying President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and their campaign party, had spent the night on a side track in our fair city while most all of the citizens of Lewis slept.

Out of concern for the president's safety, the secret-known

here only to those associated with the Santa Fe Railway and the local telephone company—was kept.

The Presidential Special left Dodge City around 11:00 p.m. after the president concluded an address on this particular whistle stop tour. Then the train steamed to Lewis where the Secret Service protectors thought it safest to remain on the siding till 5:30 the next morning. The stop was made because the train was not due in Wichita until 9:30 a.m. when President Roosevelt was to deliver another campaign speech.

Today the Democrats of Lewis mourn their missed opportunity.



How Could She Think She Was Dumb?

– by Ginger Ann Cullen, Haysville, Kansas

THIRD

Until the day she died, my grandmother, Shirley Ann (West) Cooley, claimed she wasn't very smart. Her reasoning: she never finished high school, and never had a "real" job. But I'm convinced she didn't give herself enough credit. In fact, having spent many a summer- and the entire school years in both first grade and eighth grade- with my grandma, I am absolutely certain of it. In the same way that women contribute to their households with more than paychecks, intelligence is measured by more than a high school diploma.

How could a woman, capable of following complicated crochet patterns in order to create beautifully intricate doilies, doll outfits and more, possibly think she was dumb? This same woman passed that skill along to me, when I was just a little girl. With her being right-handed and myself a southpaw, this was no easy feat. My grandmother solved this dilemma in a simple but ingenious way. She sat me down in front of her, rather than at her side, and had me mirror her movements. The strategy was so effective, I used it to teach both of my right-handed daughters to tie their shoes. They both mastered this often burdensome milestone in less than two weeks, each before their fifth birthday.

This ability to skirt potential roadblocks by thinking outside of the box is not the only reason why I consider my grandma to be a smart lady. She read books constantly, and she instilled in me an equally voracious thirst for consuming the written word. In any moment not already occupied with knitting, crocheting, needlework, baking, canning and other "domestic arts," my grandmother had her nose in a book. She was a member of more than one mail-order book of the month club, and yet, the books still didn't arrive fast enough. Her collection grew so immense, my grandfather, Floyd Eugene Cooley (whose life as a steadfast provider and incomparable craftsman is another story in itself) created walls of custom

shelves on which to store it. Her books were constant companions, both at home, and on her travels to the craft shows where she and grandpa would display and sell their crafts.

The first book I remember as a child was given to me by my grandmother. It was *The Poky Little Puppy* from the "Little Golden Book" collection. Many youth from my generation probably recall the story: five little puppies dig under the fence to explore the big wide world. I'd like to think that, by encouraging me to read from a young age, my grandma inspired me to explore the world, just like that poky little puppy. *The Poky Little Puppy* may be the first book I remember, but it sparked a fire inside me, and I credit my grandmother as the flint that created the spark. Each book I read, even to this day, serves to fan the flames, to nurture the fire. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Mother Goose's Nursery Rhymes* and *Sleeping Beauty* were three of my early favorites. My tastes may have changed over the years, but my appetite has remained the same.

As I grew, grandma continued to stoke the fire that was my passion of reading. Many times I'd go to visit her, and she'd present me with stacks of books, often purchased at craft shows, second hand shops, or flea markets. *Nancy Drew*, *The Boxcar Children* and the *Hardy Boys* became my childhood friends, thanks to my grandmother. Even after grandma stopped buying me books, I continued to devour the words of any novel, magazine or cereal box I could get my hands on. So insatiable was my appetite that I became adept at walking the halls at school while engrossed in some story or another. I discovered that I could read on nighttime car rides by holding my book up and using the headlights of the cars behind us to illuminate the text.

Grandma kneaded my young brain like a ball of dough, activating my mind with the leavening of information, allowing it to rise and become

Sometime during the mid-point of the rodeo, a helicopter swept in from Topeka with the star. Reynolds' appearance consisted of an introduction, Q&A with the emcee and a mounted ride around the arena. Before the rodeo ended the helicopter lifted, moving off to the south.

The bull riding event came to an end. Presentation of purses and awards followed. The emcee thanked everyone for coming, announced rodeo dates for next year and bid farewell cautioning all to drive carefully heading home. "Happy Trails" blared from the loud speaker. Then it happened.

The successful rebirth of the Mayetta Rodeo had held its crowd to the end. From the left end of the grandstand came a trembling vibration and rumbling sound. Human screams instantly followed and it all stopped with a crumpling thud. There was total silence for a half second, then the human voice of chaos rose to a cacophony of shock and urgency. It was then that we understood.

It had happened again, only this time it was worse. The grandstand was bigger, seating many more, but could not take all those people, rising in unison and beginning the exit shuffle to go home.

Once again our family had escaped injury and once again we calmly and carefully left the area to make room for those who were already assisting the injured.

As we filed past the arena fence and the failed end of the grandstand, the scope of the damage was apparent. Seated on the intact top row were seniors, moms with children, others. All were too afraid to move, their legs dangling over a great void bottomed by wreckage. Many had moved off the collapsing section seconds before it fell. There was more blood this time. One died, I remember being told.

This second collapse ended the Mayetta Rodeos for the promoters. Occasionally I think of these two calamities, thankful for the safety of my family and amazed that we witnessed both because of my dad's passion for horses.



Boyd “Kansas! Say it Above a Whisper” Kansas! Say It Above A Whisper

– by Morgan Belknap, Easton, Kansas

FIRST

When you think about Kansas, some people may think about Dorothy and Toto or tornadoes, or maybe even one of the most widely known Kansans, President Eisenhower. Some may say that it is too hot or that it is too flat, but me? I say it is perfect.

I just moved here about a year ago; I previously lived in West Virginia, also known as the Mountain State. Moving from mountains to the plains definitely was not easy, but I am proud as a peacock to say that I live in Kansas now.

There are multiple things that I am proud of Kansas for, but the number one thing I am proud of is the people. When I first moved here, I had

a hard time transitioning. I was scared that the people would be mean and be so much different than back home. What I failed to realize is that these kind-hearted folk are better than anyone back home.

The people of Kansas have had a big impact on my life and have taught me how to really treat people. They have shown me values, such as hard-work, caring, and genuineness that I could have never learned anywhere else, and for that I am extremely grateful. Kansas, as a whole, has grown on me more than I could have ever imagined, and it is all thanks to the kind-hearted people of Kansas.

Kansas! Say It Above A Whisper

– by Hannah Owens, Winchester, Kansas

SECOND

Visualize in your mind field after field of golden corn and amber wheat swaying in the crisp, cool breeze like waves in the ocean. The green pastures full of grazing cattle and livestock being tended to by the hard-working farmer. To me, this visualization is one of the many things that describes the great state we live in, Kansas.

Have you ever been to Kansas? If so, then you probably understand how the people of Kansas are. Strangers waving and passing a welcoming glance at you as you drive by. Townsfolk stopping to check on cars they see on the side of the road, even if you are just on the phone, and how people go out of their way to help a neighbor in need. It is just the Kansas way. They will be the nicest people in the world and give you the shirts off their back just because that is how Kansans were raised. Growing up, they were taught to be friendly, be kind, and mind your manners.

Kansas is full of rustic, country beauty; beauty that can bring even the toughest and strongest men to tears. The rugged terrain, diverse animals, and people who live in this great state make this a beautiful place. There is beauty to be found everywhere in the state Kansas, all you have to do is look around.

A great state found in the middle of a greater nation. Kansas, can you say it above a whisper?





Kansas Day

– by Elsi Miller , Great Bend, Kansas

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*I*t's 6 a.m. and you are awoken by a booming crash of thunder. You can hear the sound of pitter patters on your roof and the aroma of rain fills the air. After you are ready for the day, you see your bouquet of sunflowers which are frowning just like the clouds. It rains all day long and you are stuck with the dreary clouds that seem to never go away. But then finally just as the sun starts to set behind those dark threatening clouds, the clouds start to dismember and you are left with a gorgeous assortment of colors that range from pastel colors to the richest pigments of color. You go inside and see your sunflowers smiling at the sun. From almost anywhere, you can see this beautiful painting that is filled with colors you did not know existed, fields of wheat, and the simple beauty that is Kansas. No where else can you get this beautiful picture, not in photographs or in any other state and that is why I love Kansas.



“KANSANS *As Talented As You Think!*” 2017 HIGH SCHOOL ARTS COMPETITION

The Kansas high school art competition, “Kansans . . . As Talented As You Think!” has announced the winning entries in eight categories and its Best of Show. Art by students from Marysville and Lawrence were chosen “Best of Show” winners in the annual contest sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas.

Kylie Kroeger’s work, “Amore”, was one of the artworks that received “Best of Show”. Kylie is a senior at Marysville High School. “Art has always been a passion of mine,” stated Kylie. She plans on attending Baker University in the fall to work on becoming a dentist.

Margaret Lockwood, a student at Lawrence High School, won in the mixed media category with her work “Intricate Ubiquity”. “The main medium I work with is photography, and I will have taken seven semesters of photography by the time I graduate,” stated Margaret.

Jasmine Lang’s entry “Big Wheels Keep On Turning” was chosen as winner of the black and white photograph category. Jasmine is a senior at Topeka West High School. “Photography is by far my favorite course, just the idea of taking a photo and being able to turn it into something completely different amazes me,” stated Jasmine.

The color photograph category was won by Topeka West High School student **Christian Brown** with his work “Chinese New Year”. “It wasn’t until I took Photography 2, that I absolutely [fell] in love with this art,” stated Christian. He hopes to attend Kansas State University and possibly major in Art Education or Business.

Moriah Kruzel, a student at Lawrence High School, is the winner of the pastel category with her work “Resurrected and It Feels So Good”. “Art is a passion of mine. It brings peace of mind



“Amore” by Kylie Kroeger

and pushes one to an extent beyond their normal capabilities,” said Moriah.

The painting category winner is **Faith Burgar**, a student at Wichita East High School, with her work “Reach”. Faith, who hopes to become a doctor in Psychology along with a minor career in art illustration, stated, “My main interests include illustration. As for passion, mine lies with anything that deals with creativity.”

Heather Woleslagel, the winner of the drawing category with her work, “Thirsty?”, attends Buhler High School. “I enjoy every media in art, but some of my favorites are colored pencil, pastel and acrylic paint,” stated Heather.

(cont’d)

Freedom WINNER



Sandy Quezada



"Paying for Freedom" by Sandy Quezada

Past Kansans of the Year

2015 – Dr. Jim Hoy, Emporia

2014 – Dayton Moore, Leawood

2013 – No Award Given

2012 – Marilyn Maye, Overland Park

2012 – Dick Davidson, Bonita Springs, FL

2011 – Harold Stones, Topeka

2010 – Deanell Reece Tacha, Lawrence

2009 – Robert M. Gates, Wichita

2008 – Delano E. Lewis, Kansas City

2007 – Jim Richardson, Lindsborg

2006 – Max Falkenstein, Lawrence

2005 – Martina McBride, Sharon

2004 – Lynette Woodard, Wichita

2003 – Bob Dole, Russell

2002 – Jack St. Clair Kilby, Dallas, TX

2001 – Ross Beach, Hays

2000 – Dean Smith, Chapel Hill

1999 – Shirley Knight, Goessel

1998 – Pat Roberts, Dodge City

1996 – Robert Sudlow, Lawrence

1995 – Stan Herd, Lawrence

1994 – Samuel Ramey, Colby

1993 – John Brooks Slaughter, Topeka

1992 – Stephen A. Hawley, Salina

1991 – Marynell D. Reece, Scandia

1990 – Jordan Haines, Wichita

1989 – Bob Billings, Lawrence

1988 – Marianna K. Beach, Hays

1987 – Fred C. Bramlage, Junction City

1986 – George E. Nettles, Jr., Pittsburg

1985 – Gordon Parks, Fort Scott

1984 – Bernard W. Rodgers, Fairview

1983 – Mrs. Olive White Garvey, Wichita

1982 – Carl Nordstrom, Topeka

1981 – Joe H. Engle, Chapman

1980 – Keith G. Sebelius, Norton

1979 – Daphyne Smith Cauble, Wichita

1978 – G.W. Tomanek, Hays

1977 – Emerson D. Yoder, Denton

1976 – J. Rex Duwe, Lucas

1975 – Nyle Miller, Topeka

1974 – Edward W. McNally, Pittsburg

1973 – Lyle E. Yost, Hesston

1972 – Robert L. Brock, Topeka

1971 – Ray E. Dillon, Sr., Hutchinson

1970 – Duane L. Wallace, Wichita

1969 – Charles B. Rogers, Ellsworth

1968 – Hugh F. Edwards, Hamilton

1967 – Debbie Barnes, Moran

1966 – Jim Ryun, Wichita

1965 – Debbie Bryant, Overland Park

1965 – Jim Ryun, Wichita

1964 – Laurin W. Jones, Dodge City

1963 – Mrs. O.L. Koger, Topeka

1962 – Rees H. Hughes, Pittsburg

1961 – Harry Darby, Kansas City

1960 – Maurice E. Fager, Topeka

1959 – R.A. Clymer, El Dorado

1958 – Mrs. Frank Boyd, Mankato

1957 – Mrs. Olive Ann Beech, Wichita

1956 – Karl A. Menninger, Topeka

1955 – Arthur D. Weber, Manhattan



NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF KANSAS

Native Sons

Stephen R. Morris
President
stephenmorris46@yahoo.com

John C. Frieden
Vice President
jfrieden@fuflaw.com

Henry Schwaller
Secretary
hschwaller4@yahoo.com

Tammy Dishman
Treasurer
TDishman@capfed.com

Native Daughters

Ruth Teichman
President
teichman@hughes.net

Gilda Lintz
Vice President
Gilda_Lintz@roberts.senate.gov

Jennifer Schmidt
Secretary
jgschmidt1@hotmail.com

Ross T. Hendrickson
Treasurer
rossh@mrhinsurance.com

John D. Pinegar: *Volunteer Executive Director*
P.O. Box 546
Topeka, Kansas 66601-0546
785-235-6245 | jpinegar@sbcglobal.net



Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas will
next meet on Friday, January 26, 2018.