MY PERSONAL MICHIGAN HERO

Essays by the statewide winners of the 2016-2017 contest.

AND

A complete list of all participating schools and their local winners.

2016-2017 WINNERS

Sponsored by FARM BUREAU INSURANCE®

Michigan’s Insurance Company

America Me Essay Contest

For Michigan 8th Grade Students
There is so much that is great about Michigan...our natural beauty and breathtaking lakes, our thousands of thriving communities, and our millions of energetic people. But nothing compares to our Michigan heroes, the people who live and work in our great state and make a difference in the lives of young people.

That's what this book is about...the heroes of Michigan as seen through the eyes of Michigan eighth grade students. Thousands of students from nearly 400 Michigan schools participated in the 2016-2017 America & Me Essay Contest and submitted essays on the topic “My Personal Michigan Hero.”

Inside you’ll find reprints of the best essays in the state. These essays are about teachers, community leaders, family members, and more — everyday people making an extraordinary difference. Also, inside is a complete list of all schools that participated in the 2016-2017 contest, and the local winners from each school. Every student named in this book, and every student who submitted an essay, has our deepest thanks and congratulations.

Farm Bureau Insurance has been the proud sponsor of the annual America & Me Essay Contest since 1968. The contest has become a tradition in Michigan schools and continues to encourage Michigan young people to recognize the heroes in their communities and their state.

This book is a salute to Michigan heroes and how they make Michigan a better place to live. We hope you enjoy it.

Jim Robinson
Chief Executive Officer
Farm Bureau Insurance
DARE TO DREAM

Detroit. A few years ago, I only saw a skeleton of a city, afflicted with crime and hunger. It took a hero to transform my view, someone who would put aside their hesitation for the benefit of others and understand people regardless of their differences. My mother tutors children in inner-city Detroit. I am also her student. Through her insight and passion, I have learned to love many different parts of Michigan, and – more importantly – understand and respect all of its residents.

My mother sees past the perceived barriers of poverty and crime, through to the real Detroit. When my mother started tutoring in Detroit, I was concerned. “Is the school you’re teaching at safe? What do you do when your students are disrespectful?” My mother was quick to respond. “When they are disrespectful? Maria, do you realize most of my students are just like you? They love to learn, listen to music, play games...” My mother started telling me stories about her students, showing me their feelings, beliefs, and dreams. Now, Detroit is more than just a city to me – it is a collection of stories, of children just like myself.

My mother shares the passions of her students; she empathizes with them and makes their dreams her dreams. She “graduated” each one of her students from the tutoring program, making sure they completed the course even when time was running short. Many nights, I would find my mother creating an engaging lesson and extensive lists of vocabulary words to help them do well in standardized tests. This past January, my mother taught her students to “pay it forward” by collecting water for Flint. My mother also ensures that each student’s reading level goes up by at least a grade – in many cases, several. She also told me about a student who was very interested in Korean culture and spoke with my Korean friend about a possible trip to a Korean market. My mother shook off her fatigue and spent hours to help a student she barely knew.

My mother sees the potential in others and, like an artist, highlights it with a paintbrush of love. She graffitiis Detroit with kindness and understanding, helping to change the world for the better, one student at a time. Like her, I aspire to learn how to apply a coat of joy to the people who need it most, and give back to the state that I love. I set up two book drives and donated over 2,000 books to the Detroit Public Schools through my Girl Scout Troop. Because of my mother, I am inspired to believe in Detroit as a city full of hope, power, and potential. The gaps in the once dilapidated walls of my perception of Detroit are patched up with dreams, love and positive action, and the city’s inhabitants are now as real to me as I am. My mother, who dares to dream for Detroit, is my personal Michigan hero.
MY MICHIGAN HERO

Imagine not being able to sit still or slow down your thoughts. Imagine all the words on this paper are jumbled and jumping around. Imagine you have a story in your mind to tell, but you can’t seem to make your hand and brain work together to write it down. That is what it is like having ADHD, dyslexia, and dysgraphia. That is what I have, and it makes learning hard. Not only is learning hard, but feeling like I fit in is difficult when everyone else around me is “normal.” Especially being compared to someone like my sister, who is smart and school comes naturally to her. I felt like I was an outsider, and no one could understand what it was like to try so hard, yet still be so far behind. Except my Aunt Lolly because she shares my same struggles; she has ADHD. My Aunt Lolly is my Michigan hero because she understands me, is always there for me whenever I need her, and helps other people all over the world.

One of the reasons I view my Aunt Lolly as a hero is because she understands me. When I was diagnosed with ADHD, I had to start taking medication. Although medicine helps me focus, the side effects are awful. For example, during the day I feel tired, then at night I can’t sleep. It also takes away my appetite so I don’t eat. Last year, I lost 15 pounds. A side effect I get from not eating is terrible headaches. However, the worst side effect is the way I feel when the medicine wears off. I do not have the words to describe how bad and strange it makes me feel. So it was hard for my Mom and Dad to understand me. My parents would get frustrated with me and would say, “Just make yourself eat,” or “Make yourself go to sleep.” They did not understand why I was so angry when the medication was wearing off. My hero came through for me though! My Aunt Lolly had experienced the same terrible side effects, and being an adult, she was able to express what I was going through to my parents in a way that I could not. With her help, they finally began to understand how I felt.

Not only did she help me communicate with my parents, but because she also struggles with ADHD she knows how hard it is to stay organized and on task. For example, when I forget my cold lunch and homework on the table for the third time in a week, most people think I am being lazy or irresponsible, but really I am not. I try hard to remember my things, and I try hard not to lose my shoes or my coat, but I always seem to forget and I feel embarrassed. Yet, I know that no matter where I am, I can call my Aunt Lolly and she will bring me my forgotten lunch, misplaced shoes, or forgotten assignment. She will drop what she is doing to come and help me look for my lost coat or baseball bag, and will do so with patience and kindness. Not only is Aunt Lolly patient and kind to me, but to
others around the world.

She has traveled all over the world to help people less fortunate than her. She has been to Thailand, Honduras, and Mexico as a missionary. She always puts other people first and is the most kind-hearted person I know. She makes everyone around her feel happy. Her famous, funny stories can brighten anyone’s mood, and can change any bad day into a happy one. When I was a little boy, I loved dinosaurs and I told her if she was a dinosaur she would be called a Loveable-saurus! Aunt Lolly is also a wonderful mom of three, and owns two businesses with her husband, my Uncle Juan.

My Aunt Lolly is my hero because she understands my struggles with ADHD, and is always there to help me, and because she travels the world to help other people less fortunate than her. She doesn’t let her ADHD stop her from being successful; she is a business owner, wife, mother, and missionary. Her kindness and love have helped shape me to be who I am today, and continue to inspire me each and every day. She taught me not to let my disabilities stop me from achieving my goals. She is my Michigan hero!
DREAMS OF MUSIC

Recently, while on a website, I found a quote: “When you’re 90, you probably won’t be doing gymnastics or soccer, but you will be able to play the piano.” This, in part, is why my piano teacher, Mrs. Joy Holtrop, is my personal Michigan hero.

I remember when we first met. It was late February, 2016, and I was shivering my way up the snowy sidewalk dappled with bits of sunshine piercing through the heavy cloud layer above me. I looked up briefly; squinting in the late afternoon sun rays. Could I do this? I sighed and looked down at my suede leather boots, willing my feet to keep up my slow but steady pace. I was a first-time piano student, and I was having second thoughts about my idea. I wasn’t particularly fabulous at meeting new people, and now I was chained to a half-hour lesson?

I trudged up the steep driveway and raised my fist to the door. Then I lowered it. My heart was beating a million miles an hour when I finally decided to face my deep, dark fear. I repeatedly knocked on the door and breathed in. Out. In. Out. And then she opened the faded red front door. I noticed that it squeaked slightly. But what I noticed most was the vibes. Mrs. Holtrop, with her dark hair pulled back from her face with a headband, emanated positive vibes that brought a smile to my face.

“Hi! You must be…Annelise?”

I nodded silently, the shy smile growing when she pronounced my name. Nobody ever pronounced it right.

“Well, come on in!” she said enthusiastically. Then I entered the haven of music that I would enjoy for months to come.

My personal Michigan hero encouraged me to bring out that inner star, that flair for music that I always had. I never really felt self-confident regarding my built-in musical talent, but Mrs. Holtrop really kindled that love of music. It was when I met my piano teacher that my passion for music really came alive.

Mrs. Holtrop has inspired me in numerous fashions. In a world of self-deprecation, she was strikingly upbeat and positive with her students, family, and even strangers. She has a friendliness about her that draws people to her. They enjoy being around her because she is always encouraging. Mrs. Holtrop stimulated me in ways I never could have imagined. She challenges me through different
styles and levels of music; she tests my ability with the complicated theory of translating major scales to minor. Why do I enjoy the intricacy of theory? Because my piano teacher knew what was best for me and strived to make it engaging and pleasurable.

One of my favorite people in life is Mrs. Holtrop. She has enriched my musical talents and I am forever indebted to her for being a positive force in my life for the greater good. That is why Mrs. Holtrop is my personal Michigan hero.
“Click, clack, click-clack, clir-” Debra sighed, staring at the bulky, black machine causing her frustration. The page was almost fully typed out in braille—evident by the tiny bumps spread over it like snakeskin—but, alas, she had made an error. It would take minutes to retype the page, and hours of vigorous typing to finish the other 175 pages of Charlotte’s Web. “Anything to make braille books more accessible.” she thought. “The hard work will be worth it in the end.” The typing resumed, “Clack, clickety clack…”

This is how Seedlings, a non-profit organization that in 2015 sent 26,000 braille books to 75 countries, began—in Debra Bonde’s Detroit basement in 1984.

Debra is a humble, quiet woman in her 60’s who, years ago, wanted to make a difference. She is soft-spoken, and back then disliked socializing, as do I. Debra doesn’t model a cliché storybook hero, but that hardly matters; inside is where her heroism shines.

Debra pushed herself and joined a class, and learned how braille is arranged bumps the visually impaired feel to read. A classmate shared about her blind daughter owning only two books because they were expensive, which was wrong to Debra. How would blind children succeed in school without accessible books?

I can understand her thinking, because books are a major part of my life. I thrived on LeapFrog videos in preschool, was reading by kindergarten, and took weekly library trips with Grandpa by elementary school. Books are so accessible to me, so why shouldn’t they be equally available to blind children?

Debra started Seedlings from this knowledge, selling braille children’s books for $10—a fraction of the typical cost. Half of them are even given away, which forced Debra to socialize when finding donors.

Now headquartered in Livonia, Seedlings prints more than 1,300 different books in braille, ranging from board books to chapter books. It started from one seed—Debra Bonde’s realization of the scarceness and high-cost of children’s braille books. It was planted by her humbly, not for money or admiration, but just to help. This seed sprouted through her overcoming of challenges and diligence. Someone even said that Debra is “one of the hardest workers you will ever meet.” If she can do this, why can’t I?

Debra Bonde is truly a hero, my Michigan hero, because of the impact she makes on those around her. In 2002, she was selected as a “Michiganian of the Year.”
by The Detroit News for the literacy she brings to blind children all over the world. I may not be blind, but she shows me the difference I can make with my passion for literature, even though I'd have to overcome challenges, like talking or persevering when something gets tough. She inspires me to make a difference, because it can grow into something big, even if it starts as one tiny seed.
Timberrrr! Crash! A massive White Pine toppled, pulling up just enough to expose the Kalkaska sand. Amid the hustle of the world in 1915, my personal Michigan hero, Lloyd Blough, was born. Lloyd is my inspiration because of his continuous industriousness, ingenuity, faithfulness to God, and a spirit to never give up. While working with him on family salve-making projects, Lloyd would recount to me stories from his youth, especially how he worked with this dad as a lumberjack traversing the Michigan wilderness. Logging from the Keweenaw to the Sault and from Cheboygan to Lowell, Lloyd truly discovered Michigan’s rivers, forests, and Great Lakes.

To me, his motto always seemed to be the rousing, “There has to be a better way.” Lloyd spent his life fiddling with equipment and systems. He only had an eighth grade education, yet with ingenuity, patience, and a God-given gift for engineering, he invented mechanical equipment to make his sawmill faster, better, and safer. Utilizing scavenged chains, hooks, pulleys, rings, and a clevis he devised what his employees fondly called the “Brainstorm.” This invention was a log-hauling device that cut the sawmill’s necessary labor force in half. Another of his inventions, the “hydraulic dogs,” automatically flipped logs a quarter turn with each pass of the saw. These were some of his ingenious inventions for which he never received a penny. Employees later patented these inventions under the name “Pettibone.” When asked why he didn’t get the patent himself, he’d laugh and say, “I had better things to do.” He showed me that wealth and fame aren’t everything.

During World War II, Lloyd was drafted as a mechanic in charge of the maintenance of 24 British Spitfires. Flying over the desert, the planes sucked sand into their engines causing malfunctions. It was so difficult to clean out the engines that Lloyd thought of a better way. He salvaged filters off junk German planes, and retrofitted them to his Spitfires. When a superior officer received credit for this, Lloyd merely shrugged; he at least had the satisfaction of knowing that not one of the Spitfires in his charge crashed because of mechanical issues. Lloyd taught me that saving lives is more important than getting credit.

Faith in God the Creator meant everything to Lloyd. He was instrumental in building our church. To save money and add character, he decided to use Michigan field stones since they were free. At the age of 90, he finally retired.
from being a church trustee. The furnace he installed had to be replaced, as he alone understood its intricacies. Sadly, this winter, wonderful, great-great Uncle Lloyd passed away at the age of 100. He had served as full-time caretaker to his 96-year-old wife until four days before his death. However, his legacy survives. Every time I attend our fieldstone church or apply our homemade salve, I think of the encouragement, sustaining faith and inspiration of my personal Michigan hero, my great-great Uncle Lloyd Blough.
MY MICHIGAN HERO

Rubber soles tapped the polished floors throughout the school’s winding corridors, the few hundred students walking about, following the same daily routine: get items, get to class, take class, exit class, repeat until end of the day. I walk swiftly, slithering through the horde of bodies trying to get to their lockers quickly to ensure no tardies will be given. Inserting the combination, the locker snaps open with a slight creak. I slip on my running shoes, put away my jacket, and head solemnly down to the gym, preparing for the stress that waits patiently for me.

The same routine for me repeated every day, doing the same things as others, the only addition to my list being, “Be bullied at every class, pray the school day goes by fast, pray the bullying will stop fast, you will be safe when you get home at last.”

The days pass, each day worse than the one before: name calling, then teasing, then insulting, then small flicks to the ear, all the way to being threatened, then threats being fulfilled, getting physically hurt, wishing the pain and sorrow would end. I would try telling the teachers, and they would correct them, but the bullying never stopped. Day after day, the same routine would appear again, and again, until one day.

Another gravely bad day in gym came. During dodge ball, I was the main focus of their aim. One after another a ball would be launched at speeds I couldn’t comprehend, directly at my head, barely scraping the tip of my skull. I knew I couldn’t dodge forever, but I still had to try. Not long after, I saw a spherical yellow streak coming at me.

No time to react, I was on the ground in an instant, dazed from the massive blow. All I knew, judging from the location of the pulsing hurt on my face, was that it was in the center of my forehead, right in the bullseye-spot. Having had enough of the torment, that day, I decided to take one last chance at ending the forsaken ritual that had cursed me for so long. As soon as I recovered, as cold as frozen stone, I exited the gym, ignoring the plentiful laughs and mockery attempts occurring behind me, and continued to the office, and finally, breaking down, released the ugly truth I have recited countless times, once more, this time to the principal himself. Rubber soles tapped the polished floors throughout the school’s winding corridors, the few hundred students walking about following the same daily routine: get items, get to class, take class, exit class, repeat until end of
the day. I walk swiftly, slithering through the horde of bodies trying to get to their lockers quickly to ensure no tardies will be given. Inserting the combination, the locker snaps open with a slight creak. I slip on my running shoes, put away my jacket, and head down to the gym, not hunched, not in fear, but in gratitude. No slurs projected at me as I traversed the hallways, no threats pursued me as I passed by the people who despised me so much, and no mischievous smirks, followed after an unheard comment.

Yes, the governors of this knowledge-inducing establishment may have ignored my pleas for intervention for so many years, but until this day, they all still remain my Michigan heroes.

A special thanks to the figures who helped end it the most, those who abolished it once and for all, Mr. Kochan, and Mr. Gross. They were my voice when no one would hear me. They are my true Michigan heroes.
Close your eyes. Say the word hero to yourself. What pops into your mind? Is it Superman, streaking through the sky? Is it Hercules, with a celestial bronze broadsword and shield, fighting Hades? Today, though, I want you to think of another hero. A man who is true to his community, his word, and to the youth he mentors.

First of all, this man is true to our community. In 1948, his grandpa started a towing business downtown, and he’s kept it going strong. He hauls everything from marching band trailers to fire engines to ambulances. Whenever I drive by I see him in his office typing away on this desktop, on his phone pacing outside, or halfway underneath a truck. He is always doing everything he can to keep the local transportation systems running smoothly.

Second, this man is true to his word. Every single home soccer game I’ve ever played with him as a coach, he’s made sure that there is an American flag flying over our turf. He and his wife handle the sacred symbol of America with care. Whether we win, lose, or tie, you can always count on the stars and stripes waving from above. The marching band also counts on this man considerably. Every night during marching band season, every varsity football game, this man and his trailer transform into the personal chauffer for the percussion players’ and drum majors’ equipment. No matter what has happened to him during the day, this man will always be at the football field raring to go.

Lastly, this man is true to our community’s youth. He volunteers to be referee at the local soccer fields every year, as well as volunteering to coach the middle school soccer clubs. He was my coach when I played school soccer in sixth and seventh grade. Those were the best two years of soccer I have ever played, hands-down. He taught me how to express myself through play and how to play as a team. He taught me how a team won and lost together, went through difficult times together, and came out on top together. This year, he is moving up to be a coach at the high school level, which tugs on my heartstrings a little bit, but I see him as a real-life Mary Poppins; he needs to move on to people who need him more.

Now, I want you to go back to that image you thought up at the beginning of the essay of the word hero. I want you to alter that image, not just to include media heroes, like Superman and Hercules, but to add those ordinary people who are
leading extraordinary lives in their own communities, like this man. You want to know what his name is? It’s True. Rob True. True - true to his community, his word, and the youth he mentors – he’s a True Michigan hero in my eyes.
MY PERSONAL MICHIGAN HERO

It takes a lot to make an impact on a person. The world is a big place with lots of people, some who help you through life, some who don’t. They help you find where you’re going, put you on the right track, and have your back. So, when asked who my hero was, I didn’t hesitate on who I was to write about: my father, Brian Merkle.

My dad has done many things in his life to help people. He was born in Toledo, Ohio, but has lived in Monroe, Michigan, his whole life. As a child, he attended Trinity Lutheran School, graduated from Monroe High in 1996, and then went on to Wayne State University to earn his bachelor’s degree in science. One of his first jobs was a firefighter, and he was one until 2010. He went on tons of calls, and helped stop tons of house, building, and many more fires. He was very brave and was one of the best firefighters I know.

During the time he was a firefighter, he furthered his medical education and started working as an EMT. EMT means Emergency Medical Technician, and he still is one up to this day. To be an EMT, you must be pretty fearless, because you never know what might happen, and you’re the one that can help them in this time of need.

My father is also a funeral director; a good one too. He opened his own funeral home in 2007, after working for other funeral directors and deciding this was another way he could help the community. My dad helps the community by using his business to help others. He has hosted blood drives, veteran appreciation events, and so much more. He’s also helped the family members of those who passed away by being there for them in this tough time, hosting events like “widows’ luncheons” for them to meet other people who can help them get through by sharing their grief, and by holding annual memorial services for their loved ones.

His dedication and hard work, along with our mother’s, has helped my siblings and me get to where we are now: in a good school, getting a good education, and learning to help others. He has helped me in so many ways by shaping the path of life for me; teaching me to love, not hate; caring for others; and driving me to do the best I can in any way possible. My father has done many things out of the love of his heart. He has affected the community we live in positively and by making it better, little by little.
A great man once said, “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” Heroes don’t have to be a super hero or put their lives on the line to protect our country. Heroes can be everyday people who take the time to teach and involve others in their lives. My Michigan hero invited me into her family and took the time to tell me, teach me, and involve me in her life. She taught me the power of integrity, commitment, and sacrifice. My Michigan hero is Sue LeCronier.

Ever since I was young, I, like Sue, have loved animals and always try to be around them. I was only 11 when I began contacting rescues about opportunities to volunteer, but I was always turned down because of my age. One day, my dad suggested the LeCronier’s Petting Farm. I immediately contacted them and asked if I could volunteer. I was extremely surprised when Sue LeCronier replied and said, “Yes.”

From the first time I stepped foot on the LeCronier Farm, Sue treated me as part of her family. Even though I was only 11 years old, Sue recognized a fellow animal lover, and she helped a young girl fulfill her dream of being around and learning how to treat animals. Sue sacrificed her time to teach me how to care for the animals, and showed, by example, how to work hard and do what needs to be done even if it is not always easy. She taught me lessons I never would have learned anywhere else. While she had her hands full with me, she was still committed to her farm, sons, husband, and animals—doing what needed to be done in order to keep up the farm.

Sue took a chance with a little 11 year-old girl who knew nothing about working on a farm or how to handle the different types of animals. She is still teaching me to this day. She’s a big reason why I am who I am today, and I can’t imagine who I would be without her influence.

Someone once said, “A hero is an ordinary person that makes an extraordinary impact in the life of others.” There is nothing that could better describe Sue’s impact on my life. Sue is just an ordinary person—a wife, a mom, and a daughter; however, she is also my hero.
AHEAD OF HER TIME

Born in an era when women couldn’t vote and their rights were less than men’s, she lived a life of expression despite society’s views about women at the time. A true Renaissance woman and a jack-of-all-trades, my Michigan hero is my great aunt, Mary Kohler. She is an inspiration to me, showing that I can do amazing things, no matter what others think of me.

At first, it seemed like Mary would live a simple life, for she was born in Highland Park, Michigan, on July 5th, 1916, and grew up plucking feathers from chickens on a farm in the 1920’s. But soon, the expectation of a plain life was proven wrong. She picked up ice skating and roller skating as a hobby, along with skating in seasonal skating balls. She began to ballroom dance and ride horses. Later, when she was 51, she married my great uncle, Arnold Kohler. My aunt worked at the gift shop at a children’s hospital, and after one year of working there, profit increased by 400%. She learned to ride a motorcycle, co-pilot a yacht, and solo fly an airplane at age 50 in 1966. Through her adult life, she invested in stocks, and prospered financially. Eventually, she decided to pick up watercolor painting; making beautiful paintings of things such as beaches and fruits at age 75.

Despite all of her accomplishments, though, life wasn’t always idyllic. She suffered from macular degeneration, an eye disease that can cause vision loss, especially in older adults. She also lost her husband in 1995. Yet, she still persevered. Despite her poor sight, she kept up on daily politics and global news, along with sending cards out to friends and relatives every holiday. She even got dressed and put on makeup every single day, something I sometimes struggle to accomplish, even in eighth grade.

My aunt was a strong and thrifty woman who got the most out of her life. It was uncommon for women to be like that in her day, and that’s what truly inspires me. I want to be ahead of my time, too, and not conform to societal norms of my day. Maybe people will look up to me, just like I look up to Great Aunt Mary, my heroic Renaissance woman of Michigan.
Aside from the statewide winners whose essays appear in this book, we want to recognize this year’s local winners from each school.

On the following pages, you will find a listing of all the schools that participated in the 2016-2017 America & Me Essay Contest and the local winners from each school. The first place essay from each school went on to the statewide competition from which the best essays in the state were selected.

We want to thank all the participating schools and their winning students. Thank you for participating, thank you for your excellent essays, and thank you for telling us about your Michigan heroes. We wish you continued success and a great future.

Farm Bureau Insurance
Michigan’s Insurance Company
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Schools and Local Winners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams School/Sigel #3, Bad Axe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Lindsey Learman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGBU Alex &amp; Marie Manoogian School, Southfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Karine Calukyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Elaine Azar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Renee Kesto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akron-Fairgrove Junior/Senior High School, Fairgrove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Sara Burwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Brooklyn Czelada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Adam Samson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Saints Catholic School, Canton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Madeline LaForest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Maggie Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Brooke MacDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allendale Middle School, Allendale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Micayla Timmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Natalya Reister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Cheyenne Lyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almont Middle School, Almont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Madison Cafek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Emelia Albers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Elizabeth Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American International Academy, Inkster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Elena Soto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Chauncey Cuff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Charles Kirksey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchor Bay Middle School North, New Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Alyssa Ordakowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Paige Todoverto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Delaney Novach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson Middle School, Berkley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Caitlin Hamlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Liliana Holyfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Elise Essenmacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armada Middle School, Armada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Payton Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Madison Feys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Grace Dressler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Community Schools, Ashley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Caitlin Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Aaron Drummond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Joshua Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspen Ridge Middle School, Ishpeming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Meg Harmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Clara Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Hannah Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assumption School, Belmont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Maddy Boguslawski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Liza Stuive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Natalie Balcom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens Jr./Sr. High School, Athens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Logan Schoening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Megan VanMiddlesworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Holly Burgett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn Hills Christian School, Auburn Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Paige Carranza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Smanatha Flores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Kenadie Kelp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin Junior High School, Baldwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Monique Rowland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin Street Middle School, Hudsonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Hannah Applebee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Ally Secor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Maren Olep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangor Middle School, Bangor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Joey Hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Emily Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Arlette Perez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating Schools and Local Winners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baraga Area Schools, Baraga</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Samantha Heikkinen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Kara Laramore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Bailey Harden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baseline Middle School, South Haven</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Corinna Chen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Chloe Riston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bath Middle School, Bath</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Tammy Billingsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Morgan DeKett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Nicholas Hickey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beal City Public School, Mt. Pleasant</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Kinleigh Keller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Rosalie Daniels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Sage Schumacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bellaire Middle School, Bellaire</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Noel Mann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Brayden Dawson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Emersyn Koepke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benzie Central Jr/Sr High School, Benzie</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Hannah Kistler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Reeve Katt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Berrien Springs Middle School, Berrien Springs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Miracle Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Logan Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Hannah Nyamweya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beth Jacob School, Oak Park</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Esti Zuroff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Elli Klein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Sarah Jaffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bethlehem Lutheran School, Saginaw</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Mike Weiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Joshua Inman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Autumn Eischer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Bay de Noc School, Cooks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Zeta Keys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Camryn Chaperon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Quenna Spriks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Rapids Middle School, Big Rapids</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Justynn Bobon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Nihal Grewal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Madalynn Bentley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bishop Kelley Catholic School, Lapeer</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Tristan Brenner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Logan Clemens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Alex Shores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blissfield Community Schools, Blissfield</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Katelyn Lowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Jonah Loar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Joslyn Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bothwell Middle School, Marquette</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Savannah Methner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Clarissa Remillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Evan Gerry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boulan Park Middle School, Troy</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Kasey Sharpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Kolin Jaku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Anna Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brandon Middle School, Ortonville</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Kristina Smail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Abigail Keel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Benjamin Hooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Breckenridge Community School, Breckenridge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Kiera Goward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Trishelle Sumner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brethren Middle School, Brethren</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Harley Bunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Charlee Hicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Kaia Richardson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brown City Jr./Sr. High School, Brown City
  1st place - Roland O’Dell
  2nd place - Amber Spudowski
  3rd place - Lauren Dempsey

Brownell Middle School, Grosse Pointe Farms
  1st place - Ian Foy
  2nd place - Alyssa Coleman
  3rd place - Lily Dingeman

Byron Center Christian School, Byron Center
  1st place - Olivia Lutke
  2nd place - Josie Vink
  3rd place - Noah Wohlfert

Byron Center Middle School, Byron Center
  1st place - Solange Fingleton

Cadillac Heritage Christian School, Cadillac
  1st place - Brooke Bell
  2nd place - Gavyn Curnett
  3rd place - Katelyn Fekete

Calvary Schools of Holland, Holland
  1st place - Corey Capel
  2nd place - Emmie Baas
  3rd place - Joanna Kwantes

Canton Charter Academy, Canton
  1st place - Hope Puschell
  2nd place - Helen Crossman

Capac Junior-Senior High School, Capac
  1st place - Karter Slayton
  2nd place - Loreto Frangedakis
  3rd place - Bryce Tank

Caro Middle School, Caro
  1st place - Jade Hollingsworth
  2nd place - Zayne Pomranky
  3rd place - Coven Withers

Central Academy, Ann Arbor
  1st place - Shang Hirori
  2nd place - Moneebah Ashraf
  3rd place - Kameelah Ali

Central Montcalm Middle School, Stanton
  1st place - Isabele Doyle

Centreville Junior High, Centreville
  1st place - Cecelia Franz
  2nd place - Eleanor Wheeler
  3rd place - Ozzie Miller

Charlevoix Middle School, Charlevoix
  1st place - Gracie Thomas
  2nd place - Cameron Arnold
  3rd place - Cole Humble

Charlton Heston Academy, St. Helen
  1st place - Sofia Dubois
  2nd place - Nellie Kleinert
  3rd place - Sarah Addair

Cheboygan High School, Cheboygan
  1st place - Noah Demers
  2nd place - Aidan Juillet
  3rd place - Olivia Huber

Cherryland Middle School, Elk Rapids
  1st place - Madigan Zell
  2nd place - Preston Ball
  3rd place - Matthew Garrow

Chesaning Middle School, Chesaning
  1st place - Mary Richmond
  2nd place - Raychel Rupnow
  3rd place - Natalie Bolin

Chippewa Middle School, Okemos
  1st place - Elissa Weinrick
  2nd place - Gracie Gillard
  3rd place - Asher Holmes
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS and LOCAL WINNERS

Christ Lutheran School, Stevensville
   1st place - James Gooding
   2nd place - Justin Sortland
   3rd place - Adam Cole

Christ the King Lutheran School, Sebewaing
   1st place - Grace Williamson
   2nd place - Emma Stecker
   3rd place - Hailey Van Duser

Clare Middle School, Clare
   1st place - Morgan Beeckman
   2nd place - Mason Bryant

Clifford H. Smart Middle School, Commerce Township
   1st place - Lilly Garrer
   2nd place - Lillie Ogle
   3rd place - Kendall Smith

Coleman Community Jr/Sr High School, Coleman
   1st place - Howard Sentz
   2nd place - Kenzie McCoy
   3rd place - Drake Morales

Colon Jr. / Sr. High School, Colon
   1st place - Braeona Shelton
   2nd place - Lukas Jones
   3rd place - Aidin Smith

Comstock Northeast Middle School, Kalamazoo
   1st place - Gabriella Mulder
   2nd place - Alexandra Boven
   3rd place - Alyssa Bosma

Concord Academy, Petoskey
   1st place - Ashlyn Garber

Concord Academy-Boyne, Boyne City
   1st place - Alec Shermon Brown
   2nd place - Koehn Manthei
   3rd place - Jazmine Derenzy

Constantine Middle School, Constantine
   1st place - Travis Swann
   2nd place - Cyrah Bright
   3rd place - Jacob Derda

Coopersville Middle School, Coopersville
   1st place - Jenna Mosher
   2nd place - Natalie Perrin
   3rd place - Breanna Brotherton

Copper Country Christian School, Chassell
   1st place - Veronica Salo
   2nd place - Erick Salo

Cornerstone Christian Academy, Fremont
   1st place - Gennerosity Ekkel
   2nd place - Caleb Geeting
   3rd place - Emily Jones

Corpus Christi Catholic School, Holland
   1st place - Abigail Shrode
   2nd place - Audrey Dishinger
   3rd place - Aracely Ramirez

Covenant Christian School, Ludington
   1st place - Shelby Stakenas

Cramer Junior High, Essexville
   1st place - London Harvey
   2nd place - Morgan Hahn
   3rd place - Nick Basket

Cranbrook Boys Middle School, Bloomfield Hills
   1st place - Luke Hellweg
   2nd place - Saaim Khan
   3rd place - Bryce Hall

Dansville Middle School, Dansville
   1st place - Jorjah Bennett
   2nd place - Olivia Calderone
   3rd place - Hannah Moran

Davis Junior High School, Sterling Heights
   1st place - Paige Sakorafos
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS and LOCAL WINNERS

Davison Middle School, Davison
1st place - Emma Aumick
2nd place - Anna Barter
3rd place - Tyler Jobe

DeTour Village High School, DeTour Village
1st place - Grace Krzycki
2nd place - Charles Goudreau
3rd place - Michael Fairchild

Detroit Country Day School, Beverly Hills
1st place - Maria Cherian
2nd place - Maria Sicilia
3rd place - Selia Rendon

Detroit Merit Academy, Detroit
1st place - DuJour Johnson
2nd place - Kristianna Marks
3rd place - Chavell McCarter

Divine Child Elementary School, Dearborn
1st place - Drew Boze
2nd place - Sophia Chopp
3rd place - Sabrina Sugg

Dowagiac Middle School, Dowagiac
1st place - Martha Schaller
2nd place - Emalee Foote
3rd place - Lauren Ahonen

Dryden Community Schools, Dryden
1st place - Ella Kage
2nd place - Reed Hall
3rd place - Miya Wolff

Duke Ellington Conservatory of Music & Art, Detroit
1st place - Raymoni Hawkins
2nd place - Myron Caver
3rd place - Demia Broaden

Dundee Middle School, Dundee
1st place - Ethan Rod
2nd place - Ty Schroeder
3rd place - Noah Marshall

Dutton Christian Middle School, Caledonia
1st place - Claire Alferink
2nd place - Helen Brown
3rd place - Chloe Dood

Dwight Beach Middle School, Chelsea
1st place - Gabriella Grobsmith
2nd place - Jessica Emmert
3rd place - Andrea Kowalski

E.F. Rittmueller Middle School, Frankenmuth
1st place - Leah Nielson
2nd place - Gabrielle Michael
3rd place - Milo Neirink

East Middle School, Farmington Hills
1st place - Saicharan Vemuri
2nd place - Lindsay Hubler
3rd place - Megan Guntur

East Rockford Middle School, Rockford
1st place - Drew Woods
2nd place - Grace Nichols
3rd place - Emma Richter

Eccles School - Sigel Township S.D. #4, Harbor Beach
1st place - Mialie Beaver

Edwardsburg Middle School, Edwardsburg
1st place - Sawyer Bartels
2nd place - Isabella Campoli
3rd place - Noah Houseworth

Ellsworth Community School, Ellsworth
1st place - Evan Wallace
2nd place - Bahley Glynn
3rd place - Christy Figueroa

Emanuel Lutheran School, Lansing
1st place - Mercedes Reuschel

Emerson Middle School, Livonia
1st place - Quinn Brothers
2nd place - Hailey Petrovich
3rd place - Emily Kostik
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Schools and Local Winners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engadine Consolidated Schools, Engadine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Wyatt Flatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Kearra Paquin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Caitlynn Gehrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.C. Reed Middle School, Bridgman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Natalee McNeil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Isabella Oldenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Luke Blesy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Christian School, Lake Odessa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Sharee Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Annie Edmonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Emily Studer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Christian Schools, Clinton Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Mimi Chabi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Erin Cowells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Avery Susan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Lutheran School, Bay City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Natalie Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - James Bodrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Anna Katenhaus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fennville Middle School, Fennville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Logahn Rain Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Julissa Soriano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Monserrat Pinon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Gratiot Middle School, Fort Gratiot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Sylvia Stephens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Maggie Lomasney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Evelyn Mousigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Road Christian School, Novi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Madison Starzacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - EJamie Eichert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Favor Okechukwu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont Christian School, Fremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Bella Cummings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Jenna Karnemaat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Myah Wiersema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaylord Middle School, Gaylord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Jillian Caswell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Avery Geyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Desiree Seeley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gesu Catholic School, Detroit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Cierra Leggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Sophia Moten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Jalen Hamlett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladstone Middle School, Gladstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Payton Nault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Nate Highsmith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Megan Crow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodrich Middle School, Goodrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Ella Locey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Miaya Tait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Taylor Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Christian School, Saginaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Chae Kelsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Kierstyn Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Amber DeLong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Blanc West Middle School, Grand Blanc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Trevor Metcalf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Natalie Knopek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Samantha Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Haven Christian School, Grand Haven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Ethan VanOrman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Christian Poel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids Montessori Public School, Grand Rapids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Ivy Stoller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandville Middle School, Grandville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Marlee Remenap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Paloma Olvera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Alana Duffield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Great Oaks Academy, Warren
1st place - Kierstyn Lewis
2nd place - Rabea Begum
3rd place - Kamyl Nelson

Greater Lansing Adventist School, Lansing
1st place - Enoch Ringstaff
2nd place - Ken Alexander Meese
3rd place - Dominic McCreary

Greater Lansing Islamic School, East Lansing
1st place - Hafsa Abdulahi
2nd place - Khadija Dahir
3rd place - Mohamed Sheikh

Grosse Pointe Academy, Grosse Pointe
1st place - Gordon Acheson
2nd place - Angel Jones
3rd place - Christina Thomas

Guardian Lutheran School, Dearborn
1st place - Jessica Planck
2nd place - Alex Khoury
3rd place - Ana Flanery

Handy Middle School, Bay City
1st place - Cassandra Grotelueschen
2nd place - Ellie DuRussel
3rd place - Abigail Tarrant

Hanover-Horton Middle School, Horton
1st place - Clara Rector
2nd place - Grace Stull
3rd place - Kelsy Deforest

Harbor Beach Middle School, Harbor Beach
1st place - Matthew Weber
2nd place - Arika Booms
3rd place - Mason Booms

Harbor Springs Middle School, Harbor Springs
1st place - Ella Deegan
2nd place - Liam Ransford
3rd place - Jordan Drayer

Harper Woods Middle School, Harper Woods
1st place - Chelton Ali-Watkins
2nd place - Ajanee Watson
3rd place - Christian Johnson

Hart Middle School, Hart
1st place - Christina Postek
2nd place - Miguel Perez
3rd place - James Harjes

Hartford Middle School, Hartford
1st place - Ashton Vassar
2nd place - Savannah Raymond
3rd place - Spencer Meachum

Hartland Middle School at Ore Creek, Hartland
1st place - Nora Morris
2nd place - Carson Neuer
3rd place - Hunter Kretz

Haslett Middle School, Haslett
1st place - Kaylin Windom
2nd place - Hannah Sparkia
3rd place - Bilal Khan

Hayes Middle School, Grand Ledge
1st place - Bailey deSilva
2nd place - Paige Eacker
3rd place - Lydia Webster

Heritage Christian Academy, Kalamazoo
1st place - Annie Wild
2nd place - Hattie Waltermire
3rd place - Abe Switzer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>1st place</th>
<th>2nd place</th>
<th>3rd place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hillsdale Academy, Hillsdale</td>
<td>Francesca Rahe</td>
<td>Leah Jacobs</td>
<td>Christian Gossage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillside Middle School, Northville</td>
<td>Sarah Gallagher</td>
<td>Sara Haupt</td>
<td>Zachary Zakaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland High School, Holland</td>
<td>Selena Vazquez</td>
<td>Lillian Sharp</td>
<td>Justin Wolters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Middle School, Holly</td>
<td>Andrea Ruiz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holman Elementary School, Atlantic Mine</td>
<td>Renae Redinger</td>
<td>Rhea Larson</td>
<td>Claire Rajala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holton Middle School, Holton</td>
<td>Abby Wisniewski</td>
<td>Adrianna Johnson</td>
<td>Ariana Hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Cross Lutheran School, Saginaw</td>
<td>Keaton Ringley</td>
<td>Isaac Plamondon</td>
<td>David Jahnke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Family Catholic School, Grand Blanc</td>
<td>Willow Abbott</td>
<td>Annie Babiasz</td>
<td>Owen Lobsinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Ghost Lutheran School, Monroe</td>
<td>Isabelle Alston</td>
<td>Emma Scznsny</td>
<td>Katie Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Name Catholic School, Escanaba</td>
<td>Ariella Murray</td>
<td>Caleb Ouwinga</td>
<td>Eastin Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Name School, Birmingham</td>
<td>Isabella Venniro</td>
<td>Liam Richards</td>
<td>Andy Dunovan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Redeemer Grade School, Detroit</td>
<td>Wendolee Zamudio</td>
<td>Emily Lara</td>
<td>Sonia Vazquez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Trinity School, Comstock Park</td>
<td>Ashley Richmond</td>
<td>Grace Bugajski</td>
<td>Carly Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopkins Middle School, Hopkins</td>
<td>Alley Lenard</td>
<td>Kara Noble</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houghton Lake High School, Houghton Lake</td>
<td>Breanna Vietti</td>
<td>Macy Bisballe</td>
<td>Chase Plott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howardsville Christian School, Marcellus</td>
<td>Zoey Rupp</td>
<td>Josiah Rose</td>
<td>Izabella Rupp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huda School &amp; Montessori, Franklin</td>
<td>Abdul-Kader Azrak</td>
<td>Reem Killawi</td>
<td>Fatima Syed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudsonville Christian Middle School, Hudsonville</td>
<td>Lauren Pung</td>
<td>Caili Sall</td>
<td>Clayton Kamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ida Middle School, Ida</td>
<td>Abby Breitner</td>
<td>Christopher Zangara</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Echo Bennett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS and LOCAL WINNERS

IHM - St. Casimir Middle School, Lansing
1st place - Megan Pham
2nd place - Christina Gutierrez
3rd place - Isabel Lara

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Rapids
1st place - Carly Cottrell
2nd place - Gabriella Rosario
3rd place - Shnayly Oriza

Immanuel Lutheran School, Alpena
1st place - Gabriella Standen
2nd place - Dan Hinrichs

Immanuel Lutheran School, Bay City
1st place - Jacob VanOoteghem
2nd place - Nolan Kern
3rd place - Eireanne Meier

Immanuel Lutheran School, Macomb
1st place - Sydney Hofmeister
2nd place - Talia Vermiglio
3rd place - Phoebe Fraser

Immanuel Lutheran School, Saginaw
1st place - Christina Leidel
2nd place - Ben Reinert

Immanuel St. James Lutheran School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Jadon Flikkema
2nd place - Patrick Viau
3rd place - Jordan Younts

Inter-City Baptist High School, Allen Park
1st place - Audrey Bradley
2nd place - Kathryn Buzle
3rd place - Heather Buzle

Ionia Middle School, Ionia
1st place - Katrina Smit
2nd place - Dylan Tate
3rd place - Anthony Audia

Iron Mountain Central Middle School, Iron Mountain
1st place - Andie Ellis
2nd place - Alexandra Hagan
3rd place - Kennedy Reath

Island City Academy, Eaton Rapids
1st place - Madison Beckett
2nd place - Annie Eck
3rd place - Sophie Gruesbeck

Jackson Christian Middle School, Jackson
1st place - Alysa Earnst
2nd place - Paiton Holowood
3rd place - Rachel Khon

Jackson Preparatory & Early College, Jackson
1st place - Elizabeth Kish
2nd place - Karah Breidenbaugh

Jeffers Junior-Senior High School, Painesdale
1st place - Ashley Sloat
2nd place - Joandra Mattila
3rd place - Allison Harma

Jefferson Middle School, Midland
1st place - Anna Stolz
2nd place - Tess Striebel
3rd place - Caleb Qiu

JKL Bahweting Middle School, Sault Ste. Marie
1st place - Emily Nichols
2nd place - Cameron Hoornstra
3rd place - Sawyer Dowd

Johannesburg Middle School, Johannesburg
1st place - Lucas Newell
2nd place - Sydney Townsend
3rd place - Shawn Ziobron
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS and LOCAL WINNERS

John E. Owens High School, Reading
1st place - Kiley Shay
2nd place - Paige Bailey
3rd place - Arielle Matthews

John Paul II Catholic School, Lincoln Park
1st place - Baylee Unverzagt
2nd place - Joseph Wisniewski
3rd place - Kayla Neal

John R King Academy & Performing Arts Academy, Detroit
1st place - Angelique Price
2nd place - Tyree Rayford
3rd place - Ivory Valentine

Jonesville Middle School, Jonesville
1st place - Grace Stiverson
2nd place - Garett Eggleston
3rd place - Shyla Nichols

Juniata Christian School, Vassar
1st place - Morgan Putman

Kingsbury School, Oxford
1st place - Molly Scovic
2nd place - Zoe Prochko
3rd place - Sam Stec

Kosciusko Middle School, Hamtramck
1st place - Thamanna Begum
2nd place - Nadija Basic

L'Anse Creuse Middle School East, Chesterfield
1st place - Gabriella White
2nd place - Jayden Vann
3rd place - Brianne Lowe

Lake City Middle School, Lake City
1st place - Cassie Liebisch
2nd place - Olivia Dolley
3rd place - Ellison Schichtel

Lakeshore Middle School, Stevensville
1st place - Arturo Abarca
2nd place - Nathan Marohn
3rd place - Chloie Woods

Lakeview High School, Lakeview
1st place - Dayna Gilley
2nd place - Emiley Kroeze
3rd place - Aliyah Johnson

Lakeville Middle School, Otisville
1st place - Charlotte Barron
2nd place - Breonna West
3rd place - Aiyana Vines

Lakewood Middle School, Woodland
1st place - Kathryn Strauss
2nd place - Jessalyn Hawkins
3rd place - Makayla Schafer

Lamont Christian School, Coopersville
1st place - Anthony Meerman
2nd place - Will Molewyk
3rd place - Owen Pitsch

Lansing Christian School, Lansing
1st place - Ashton Briggs
2nd place - Lexi Kinnas
3rd place - Sydney Shanks

Lawton Middle School, Lawton
1st place - Olivia Cramer
2nd place - Mackenzie Nickrent
3rd place - Jacob Caldwell

Legacy Christian School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Kamryn Rice
2nd place - Moriah Lanning
3rd place - Alina Vanderzon

Legg Middle School, Coldwater
1st place - Teighlor Beatty
2nd place - Tate Hostetler
3rd place - Carson Perz
Lenawee Christian School, Adrian
  1st place - Katherina Zielinski
  2nd place - Natalie Spaulding
  3rd place - Anna Pamner

Lincoln Middle School, Ypsilanti
  1st place - Emily Koch
  2nd place - Aliyah Hall
  3rd place - Faith Zimmerman

Linden Charter Academy, Flint
  1st place - La’Breanna’ Crowder
  2nd place - Maurecio Anderson

Linden Middle School, Linden
  1st place - Gabriel Hay
  2nd place - Melanea Strauss
  3rd place - Apryl Smith

Ludington Area Catholic School, Ludington
  1st place - Taylor Makowicki
  2nd place - Lindy Murphy

Lumen Christi Catholic School, Jackson
  1st place - Tyler Thornhill
  2nd place - Michaela Powell
  3rd place - Cara Fries

Manistee Catholic Central School, Manistee
  1st place - Blake Johnson
  2nd place - Samuel Madsen
  3rd place - Justin Stickney

Manistee Middle School, Manistee
  1st place - Eliaylia Broome
  2nd place - Kanyon Sparks
  3rd place - Kari Jans

Manton Middle School, Manton
  1st place - Cari Stewart
  2nd place - Jacob Bigelow
  3rd place - Jennifer O’Connor

Maple Valley Jr. High School, Vermontville
  1st place - Megan Valiquette
  2nd place - Hope Musser
  3rd place - Kay Bansemer

Maplewood Baptist Academy, Kinross
  1st place - Ahna Henderson
  2nd place - Madison McInnis
  3rd place - Trey Atkinson

Mar Lee School, Marshall
  1st place - Sophia McQuown
  2nd place - Maredith Byrd
  3rd place - Markus Neitzel

Marlette Jr/Sr High School, Marlette
  1st place - Mackenzie Chateauvert
  2nd place - Kristen Kelly
  3rd place - Olivia Storm

Marshall Middle School, Marshall
  1st place - Maliyah Gore
  2nd place - Abby Welke
  3rd place - Reagan Winnie

Marysville Middle School, Marysville
  1st place - Casie Paul
  2nd place - Presley Dupuie

Mason County Eastern Junior/Senior High, Custer
  1st place - Emily Robinson
  2nd place - Raymond Bourdage
  3rd place - Neal Stewart

McBain Rural Agricultural Schools, McBain
  1st place - Michel Romero
  2nd place - Lorra VanderVlucht
  3rd place - Klaire Pollington

Mendon Middle School, Mendon
  1st place - Madison Hessling
  2nd place - Andrea Hoffman
  3rd place - Kaylee Allison
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS and LOCAL WINNERS

Milan Middle School, Milan
1st place - Paige Warington
2nd place - Samantha Ruff
3rd place - Elizabeth Krol

Moline Christian School, Moline
1st place - Allyson Fennema
2nd place - Becky Hendriksema
3rd place - Addy Koster

Most Holy Trinity School, Fowler
1st place - Kara Esch
2nd place - Braeden Andros
3rd place - Dominic Horak

Mt. Morris Junior High School, Mt. Morris
1st place - Amya Marshall
2nd place - Alyssa Mitchell
3rd place - Donavan Franklin

Munising Baptist School, Wetmore
1st place - Kadyne DeFrancesco
2nd place - Nicholas Exelby
3rd place - Anna Veneberg

Muskegon Catholic Central Middle School, Muskegon
1st place - Alaina Kohley
2nd place - Griffin Michelli
3rd place - Aaron Gustin

Nellie B. Chisholm Middle School, Montague
1st place - Joseph Heckman
2nd place - Amanda Krajewski
3rd place - Carson Tank

New Bedford Academy, Lambertville
1st place - Benjamin Feit
2nd place - Chanita Alcaraz
3rd place - Gracelyn Ansted

New Covenant Christian School, Lansing
1st place - Elysis Cain

New Life Christian Academy, Kimball
1st place - Malia Horton
2nd place - Trevor Crowder
3rd place - Elizabeth Schultz

Newaygo Middle School, Newaygo
1st place - Bradley Holmes
2nd place - Terah-Leigh Bush
3rd place - Kendall Mathis

North Adams-Jerome Schools, North Adams
1st place - Abi Nunez
2nd place - Brytlynn Meyer
3rd place - Ashlyn Luke

North Branch Middle School, North Branch
1st place - Chloe Caringi
2nd place - Mattea Swoish
3rd place - Emily Ludescher

North Central Area Schools, Powers
1st place - Daniel Dani
2nd place - Fabian Chartier
3rd place - Andie Arsenault

North Dickinson School, Felch
1st place - Kiara Sheldon
2nd place - Madaline Derke
3rd place - Liberty Carlson

North Pointe Christian Middle School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Delaine Minnema
2nd place - Olivia Yin
3rd place - Abigail Reynolds

North Rockford Middle School, Rockford
1st place - Matthew Dubravec
2nd place - Dorothy Rossmiller
3rd place - Megan Steffes
Northern Michigan Christian School, McBain
1st place - Jenna Kuperus
2nd place - Cole Cederberg
3rd place - Nick Heuker

Northport Public School, Northport
1st place - Sophie Stowe
2nd place - Wyatt Sahs
3rd place - Ivan Paciorka

Northridge Academy, Flint
1st place - Donavun Robinson
2nd place - Tamera Thames
3rd place - Michal Mitchell

Northville Montessori Center, Northville
1st place - Ben Schultz
2nd place - Andrew Palmer
3rd place - Eve Earl

O.J. DeJonge Junior High, Ludington
1st place - Sophia Cooney
2nd place - Kirin Kraifetheker
3rd place - Tess Bradley

Oakland Christian School, Auburn Hills
1st place - Samantha Bouren
2nd place - Aaron Pomaville
3rd place - Brynn McConnell

Olivet Middle School, Olivet
1st place - Allison Garvie
2nd place - Mason O’Dell
3rd place - Mollie Spencer

Onekama School, Onekama
1st place - Jake Petrosky
2nd place - Erin Smith
3rd place - Ajah Fink

Our Lady of Lake Huron School, Harbor Beach
1st place - Laine Siemen
2nd place - Michaela Guza
3rd place - Brent Volmering

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School, Farmington
1st place - Marcella Zarouk
2nd place - Madeline Kenney
3rd place - Olivia Milosevich

Our Lady of the Lakes Middle School, Waterford
1st place - Elizabeth Ware
2nd place - Bre Llewellyn
3rd place - Hanna Stalker

Our Lady of Victory School, Northville
1st place - Cotter Welch
2nd place - Anna Said
3rd place - Maria Fiebig

Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Grosse Pointe Woods
1st place - Lucy Tranchida
2nd place - Edmond Olejniczak
3rd place - Daniel Ament

Our Savior Lutheran School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Katherine Tellier
2nd place - Hailee Nicol
3rd place - Daniel Mueller

Our Shepherd Lutheran School, Birmingham
1st place - Cailey Kosciuk
2nd place - Adria Dixon
3rd place - Elizabeth Berg

Ovid-Elsie Junior High, Elsie
1st place - Kylah Didur
2nd place - Skyler Spitzley
3rd place - Karli Smith

Owendale-Gagetown Area School, Owendale
1st place - Libby Ondrajka
2nd place - Clay Evans
3rd place - Jameson McKnight
Owosso Middle School, Owosso
1st place - Elizabeth Tolrud
2nd place - Jennifer Smith
3rd place - Alyssa Zeller

Oxford Middle School, Oxford
1st place - Lauren Schiller
2nd place - Lily Boothe
3rd place - Emma LaBarge

Parcells Middle School, Grosse Pointe Woods
1st place - Raven Jason
2nd place - Abigail Menth
3rd place - Aaron Backos

Parchment Middle School, Parchment
1st place - Ashton Heil
2nd place - Emma Doorlag
3rd place - Audrey Barker

Parker Middle School, Howell
1st place - Kera Baad
2nd place - Jessica Holanda
3rd place - Taylor Croghan

Peace Lutheran School, Saginaw
1st place - Kristofer Nisidis
2nd place - Karsten Foss
3rd place - Skylar Hoppe

Peace Lutheran School, Shelby Township
1st place - Brendan Chouinard
2nd place - Hannah Sheppard
3rd place - Genevieve Osowski

Pellston Middle School, Pellston
1st place - Levi Redding
2nd place - Katie Schrock
3rd place - Zoe Ball

Petoskey Middle School, Petoskey
1st place - Carley Sneddon
2nd place - Pat Leavy
3rd place - Sarah Liederbach

Pickford Middle School, Pickford
1st place - Cassey Cottle
2nd place - Steven Tinker
3rd place - Jocelyn Portice

Pinconning Area Middle School, Pinconning
1st place - Alexis Holstine
2nd place - Jacey Pomaville
3rd place - Vanessa Selle

Pittsford Area School, Pittsford
1st place - Laney Clark
2nd place - Becky Smith
3rd place - Savanna Gamble

Pleasant View Elementary Magnet School, Lansing
1st place - Samaya Plater
2nd place - Ellexis Samon

Plymouth Christian High School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Annelise Fluit
2nd place - Brianna Timmer
3rd place - Luke Schipper

Powell Middle School, Washington
1st place - Ava Muschong
2nd place - Mackenzie Martin
3rd place - Rose Paoletti

Prairie Baptist School, Scotts
1st place - Christopher Gray
2nd place - Madison Cosgrove

Republic-Michigamme School, Republic
1st place - Gabe DuPont
2nd place - Logan Hanninen
3rd place - Eli Luokkala

Resurrection School, Lansing
1st place - Say Meh
2nd place - Gabriella Freitas
3rd place - Annie Dudley
Richmond Middle School, Richmond
1st place - Alyssa Systermann
2nd place - Skylar Swartz
3rd place - Nicholas Powers

Romeo Middle School, Romeo
1st place - Carlina Parrinello
2nd place - Ella Easterwood
3rd place - Kloe Klakulak

Sacred Heart Academy, Mt. Pleasant
1st place - Matthew Kinney
2nd place - Matthew Nowak
3rd place - Zach Wentworth

Sacred Heart School, Dearborn
1st place - Natalia Sultana
2nd place - Rayanne Hider
3rd place - Michael Morrone

Saint Thecla Elementary School, Clinton Township
1st place - Elizabeth Spicuzzi
2nd place - Anthony DeBerardina
3rd place - Christina Kramer

Salem Lutheran School, Owosso
1st place - Brady Cornell
2nd place - Logan Aschenbrenner
3rd place - Emma Perry

Salina Intermediate School, Dearborn
1st place - Mona Sufty
2nd place - Duray Virk
3rd place - Maria Virk

Saline Middle School, Saline
1st place - Willow Symonds
2nd place - Grace Franklin
3rd place - Korinn Perron

Sandusky High School, Sandusky
1st place - Trisha Murray
2nd place - Fayth Powell
3rd place - Reagan Frostic

Schoolcraft Middle School, Schoolcraft
1st place - Isabella Parker
2nd place - Brandin Myers
3rd place - Carter Graber

Seitz Middle School, Riverview
1st place - Jayden Bruce
2nd place - Renee Bacon
3rd place - Madysen Hazelton

Shelby Middle School, Shelby
1st place - Pierce Newell

Smith Middle School, Troy
1st place - Stefan Lemke
2nd place - Nate Kovacs
3rd place - Sarah Xu

Spiritus Sanctus Academy, Plymouth
1st place - Sophia Hogan
2nd place - Madi Ressler
3rd place - Amber Puente

Spring Lake Middle School, Spring Lake
1st place - May Fuller
2nd place - Amelia Thalhammer
3rd place - Zoe Ruffing

Spring Vale Academy, Owosso
1st place - Kara Caswell

Springport Middle School, Springport
1st place - Isabel Hoaglin
2nd place - Caleb Dyer
3rd place - Dale-Anna Piercefield

SS Peter and Paul School, Ionia
1st place - Maegan McGuire
2nd place - Matthew Meyer
3rd place - Angelica Romero

St. Anselm School, Dearborn Heights
1st place - Lana Elzein
2nd place - Rayan Elzein
3rd place - Shannon Clark
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Schools and Local Winners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua School, Grand Rapids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Ellen Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Max Misner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Bobby Powers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Augustine Catholic School, Kalamazoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Jordan Juszczyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Anthony Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Kaelleigh Otting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Augustine School, Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Madeline Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Katelyn Fletcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Nathaniel Maceroni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Charles School, Greenville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Erin Rittersdorf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Aaron Amidon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Christina Lindeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Charles School, Newport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Tommy Boggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Zachary Patterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Stacy Masserant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Clare of Montefalco School, Grosse Pointe Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Frannie Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Jaden Graham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Elena Zakolowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Edith School, Livonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Christian Daniels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Lauren Godin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Melissa Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Middle School, Traverse City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Janie Fitzpatrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Olivia Ludka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Lilly Bobrowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School, Reese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place - Jack Sirianni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place - Abigail Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place - Alyssa Corrion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
St. John Lutheran School, Rogers City
1st place - Kristin Brege
2nd place - Isaac Hein
3rd place - Mackenzie Bruning

St. John Vianney Catholic School, Flint
1st place - Alaina Welch
2nd place - Peyton Lowe
3rd place - Erin Henthorn

St. John Vianney Catholic School, Wyoming
1st place - Lainie Hussett
2nd place - Nora Coppock
3rd place - Nhi Nguyen

St. John’s Lutheran School, Bay City
1st place - Grace Lamb
2nd place - Shayla LeVasseur
3rd place - Arron Brooks

St. John’s Lutheran School, Midland
1st place - Caleb Zastrow
2nd place - Danielle Browning
3rd place - Tommy McQuiston

St. John’s Lutheran School, Westland
1st place - Madelynn Wellday
2nd place - Tommy Franka
3rd place - Julieanna Evans

St. Joseph Catholic School, Erie
1st place - Maria Evola
2nd place - Nicole Vaughn
3rd place - Julia Opperman

St. Joseph Catholic School, Howell
1st place - Grace Lipscomb
2nd place - Henry Molter
3rd place - Hannah Paulik

St. Joseph School, Lake Orion
1st place - Hallie Kohler
2nd place - Lucas Husch
3rd place - David Nemmert

St. Joseph School, Pewamo
1st place - Nathan George
2nd place - Faith Spitzley
3rd place - Lily Hafner

St. Joseph School, West Branch
1st place - Paige Balser
2nd place - Reid Jones
3rd place - Keaton Munn

St. Lorenz Lutheran School, Frankenmuth
1st place - Hannah Layton
2nd place - Jaclyn Schoenow
3rd place - Sarah Keinath

St. Luke Lutheran School, Clinton Township
1st place - Noah Kijorski
2nd place - Kaitlyn Schmaltz
3rd place - Tony Crawford

St. Mary Cathedral School, Gaylord
1st place - John E. Burkhardt
2nd place - Mary Makarewicz
3rd place - Kaylie McKinley

St. Mary Catholic School, Pinckney
1st place - Savannah Wing
2nd place - Kendall Bonifer
3rd place - Rileigh Garbarz

St. Mary Catholic School, Rockwood
1st place - Heather Stokes
2nd place - Alex Murray
3rd place - Alex Szczesnowski

St. Mary Catholic School, Wayne
1st place - Brendan Wong
2nd place - India Harris
3rd place - Ira Velasco

St. Mary School, Mt. Clemens
1st place - Anthony DiGiuseppe
2nd place - Gabby Sells
3rd place - Maria Kreinbring
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>1st Place</th>
<th>2nd Place</th>
<th>3rd Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary School, Spring Lake</td>
<td>Lucy Boeve</td>
<td>Olivia Twa</td>
<td>Olivia McKenna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Catholic School, St. Clair</td>
<td>Eric Bostick</td>
<td>Elizabeth Sutherland</td>
<td>Monica Kalbaugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Matthew Lutheran School, Walled Lake</td>
<td>Zoe Gilchrist</td>
<td>Lana Nichols</td>
<td>Maura Thomson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Michael Lutheran School, Richville</td>
<td>Logan Boyke</td>
<td>Landen Schwab</td>
<td>Kasey Janke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Michael School, Livonia</td>
<td>Mackenzie Wilson</td>
<td>Olivia Berryman</td>
<td>Cate Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Monica Catholic School, Kalamazoo</td>
<td>Mackenzie Hewitt</td>
<td>Sarah Aiello</td>
<td>Katey Reasoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick School, Ada</td>
<td>Carissa Mitchell</td>
<td>Hudson Lamoreaux</td>
<td>Sydney Spanbauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick School, Brighton</td>
<td>Chloe Vestergaard</td>
<td>Lauren Jagst</td>
<td>Isabel Vassallo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick School, Carleton</td>
<td>Hailey Salter</td>
<td>Kyrie Gannon</td>
<td>Alaina Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul Catholic Elementary School, Grosse</td>
<td>Thomas Hessburg</td>
<td>Joseph Romanelli</td>
<td>Lilly Parrish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul Catholic School, Owosso</td>
<td>Isabel Migan</td>
<td>Alexandra Schulz</td>
<td>Sam Feldpausch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran School, Bay City</td>
<td>Isabel Warren</td>
<td>Jared Zeilinger</td>
<td>Jacob List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran School, Stevensville</td>
<td>Evie Clare</td>
<td>Alexa Tobias</td>
<td>Madison Kruschel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul’s Lutheran, Ann Arbor</td>
<td>Truly Fehrlie</td>
<td>Dylan Beck</td>
<td>Adelyn Wilcox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Saginaw</td>
<td>Allyson Wenzell</td>
<td>Drew Reif</td>
<td>Kendall Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Peter Lutheran School, Hemlock</td>
<td>Colton Kreh</td>
<td>Ryan Fehn</td>
<td>Peyton Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Peter’s Lutheran School, Richmond</td>
<td>Jake Colley</td>
<td>Alyssa Jaroh</td>
<td>Leah VanDeWarker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Pius X School, Southgate</td>
<td>Mary Kate Hughes</td>
<td>Juliana Hickey</td>
<td>Amalia Graham</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
St. Regis School, Bloomfield
1st place - Margaret Kase
2nd place - Campbell Geary
3rd place - Ellie Callaghan

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic School, Flushing
1st place - Teresa Beiter
2nd place - Julia Krzharich
3rd place - Caitlin Thompson

St. Sebastian School, Dearborn Heights
1st place - Richelle Pedronio
2nd place - Maria Drumsta
3rd place - Isabella Brent

St. Stanislaus School, Dorr
1st place - Emilee Schumacher
2nd place - Owen Lincoln
3rd place - Katelyn Williams

St. Stephen Catholic School, East Grand Rapids
1st place - Mary Kate Wittkowski
2nd place - Emma Tipping
3rd place - Zachary LaBine

St. Stephen Lutheran School, Adrian
1st place - Maryhelen Poling
2nd place - Lexi Rosansky
3rd place - Grant Watson

St. Stephen School, New Boston
1st place - Anastasia Javarinis
2nd place - Isabella Huff
3rd place - John Michael Shepperd

St. Thomas More Academy, Burton
1st place - Mary Kudwa
2nd place - Molly Ward
3rd place - John McAuliffe

St. Thomas the Apostle School, Grand Rapids
1st place - Eleanor Livingstone
2nd place - Clare Wadaga
3rd place - Libby Widlak

St. Valentine School, Redford
1st place - Anna Damuth
2nd place - Daniel Hawn
3rd place - Colin Crenshaw

St. William Catholic School, Walled Lake
1st place - Danny Turek
2nd place - Anthony Aljida
3rd place - Claire McClorey

St. Valentine School, Redford
1st place - Anna Damuth
2nd place - Daniel Hawn
3rd place - Colin Crenshaw

Star International Academy, Dearborn Heights
1st place - Donya Aljemelawy
2nd place - Maia Hamdan
3rd place - Ryan Akhdar

Stephenson Middle School, Stephenson
1st place - Morgan Brown
2nd place - Mark Kakuk

Sturgis Middle School, Sturgis
1st place - Jolee Wojciechoski
2nd place - Allison Littlefield
3rd place - Nathan Pagels

Surline Middle School, West Branch
1st place - Regan Temple
2nd place - Faith Kurtz
3rd place - Linkin Carlson

Swan Valley Middle School, Saginaw
1st place - Paige Catlin
2nd place - Jessica Burgess
3rd place - Abigail Decess

Swartz Creek Middle School, Swartz Creek
1st place - Elise Bratton
2nd place - Jillian Grimes
3rd place - Corinne Shather

T.S. Nurnberger Middle School, St. Louis
1st place - Chloe Baxter
2nd place - Macie Salladay
3rd place - J.T. Starry
Tecumseh Middle School, Tecumseh
1st place - Andrew Selenko

Tekonsha Middle School, Tekonsha
1st place - Madison Owens
2nd place - Harrison Eisenberg
3rd place - Victoria Cross

The Chatfield School, Lapeer
1st place - Emma Muir
2nd place - Maggie Bialek
3rd place - Sean Barnett

The Japhet School, Clawson
1st place - Owen Perry
2nd place - Logan Wrona
3rd place - Isabel Fleischaker

The New Standard, Flint
1st place - Tyreonna Dunn
2nd place - Mya Fransioli
3rd place - Dominick Spearman

Traverse City Christian School, Traverse City
1st place - Clint Walker
2nd place - Simeon Popa
3rd place - Grace Lord

Trinity Lutheran School, Bay City
1st place - Maia Pankow
2nd place - Logan Rau
3rd place - Dylan Diem

Trinity Lutheran School, Berrien Springs
1st place - Marshall McFarland
2nd place - Aidan Rindfield
3rd place - Dorian Schlutt

Trinity Lutheran School, Clinton Township
1st place - Madeline Beattie
2nd place - Nathan Daniels
3rd place - Madisyn Link

Trinity Lutheran School, Jackson
1st place - Joy Lanham
2nd place - Christian Schuknecht
3rd place - Sarah Fox

Trinity Lutheran School, Monroe
1st place - Olivia Merkle
2nd place - Seth Jenkins
3rd place - Ani Standifer

Trinity Lutheran School, Paw Paw
1st place - Makayla Trumbull
2nd place - Madison Reynolds
3rd place - Justina Thrasher

Trinity Lutheran School, Reese
1st place - Brianna Dankert
2nd place - Mitchell Neumann
3rd place - Katie Ratajczak

Trinity Lutheran School, Utica
1st place - Grace Schomaker
2nd place - Hailee Ide
3rd place - Evan Maskell

Triumph Academy, Monroe
1st place - Andrea Sewell
2nd place - Megan LaRoy
3rd place - Kennedy Carroll

Ubly Junior High School, Ubly
1st place - Josephine Gusa
2nd place - Katie Heilig
3rd place - Dawson Schumacher

Union City Middle School, Union City
1st place - Ava Winstone
2nd place - Rachel Bowers
3rd place - Annie Hull

Unionville-Sebewaing Area Middle School, Sebewaing
1st place - Emma Greenfield
2nd place - Ashlyn LaPratt
3rd place - Draper Holland
University Preparatory Academy MS, Detroit
1st place - Tavoree Harris
2nd place - Andre Lawson
3rd place - Layla Cole

Verona Mills Elementary School, Bad Axe
1st place - Akalya Krueger
2nd place - Kyle Schweitzer

Vicksburg Middle School, Vicksburg
1st place - Michael Mendocha
2nd place - Jacob Fleming
3rd place - Nevaeh Gates

Waldron Area Schools, Waldron
1st place - Samuel Sharpe
2nd place - Kasie Sheffer
3rd place - Elizabeth Fee

Warren Woods Christian School, Warren
1st place - Paul Morgan
2nd place - Autumn Caya
3rd place - Isabel Sanchez

Warrendale Charter Academy, Detroit
1st place - Destiny Journey
2nd place - Abdou Jom
3rd place - Sami’a Muhammed-Hunter

Washtenaw Christian Academy, Saline
1st place - Lindsey Gram
2nd place - Ryan Nastepniak
3rd place - Maya Jeffery

Wayland Union Middle School, Wayland
1st place - Ashtyn Fekete
2nd place - Megan Rose
3rd place - Kendra VanKoeevering

West Hills Middle School, West Bloomfield
1st place - Jillian Lesson
2nd place - Fallan Sherman
3rd place - Natalie Cooper

West Iron County Middle School, Iron River
1st place - Mitchell Ballinger
2nd place - Drew Hebert
3rd place - Amber Juntunen

West Middle School, Plymouth
1st place - Lindsay Ripple
2nd place - Nicklas Miller
3rd place - Lola Merrill

Western Michigan Christian High School, Norton Shores
1st place - A’Nyah Greer
2nd place - Olivia Hendrie
3rd place - Sophia Bassett

White Middle School, Allegan
1st place - Carly Mollitor
2nd place - Jenna Kutscher
3rd place - Olivia Williams

Williamston Middle School, Williamston
1st place - Emma Agnew
2nd place - Alexandra Apostol
3rd place - TJ Kruger

Wilson SDA Junior Academy, Wilson
1st place - Jacob Zinke
2nd place - Kendra Priser
3rd place - Isabella Blasco

Woodland School, Traverse City
1st place - Ivy Halligan
2nd place - Megan Wood
3rd place - Nate Misico

Yale Junior High School, Yale
1st place - Alivia Salski
2nd place - Daniel Ferguson
3rd place - Anna Gerardy
University Liggett School, Grosse Pointe Woods
   1st place - Harisen Davis
   2nd place - Reese Martin
   3rd place - Vincent Maribao

Zion Christian School, Byron Center
   1st place - Kelly Leep
   2nd place - Kate Warners
   3rd place - Jayden Dykstra

Zion Lutheran School, Auburn
   1st place - Sullivan Whalen
   2nd place - Jayden Gledhill
   3rd place - Gavin Schumann

Zion Lutheran School, Bay City
   1st place - Morgan Kurchak
   2nd place - Hannah Benford
   3rd place - Ethan Sage

Zion Lutheran School, Harbor Beach
   1st place - Megan Booms
   2nd place - Taryn Arntz
   3rd place - Madelyn Layer

Congratulations TO ALL THE LOCAL WINNERS.
PICTURES FROM LAST YEAR’S EVENT
For more information about the **America & Me Essay Contest** contact:

Farm Bureau Insurance
America & Me Essay Contest Coordinator
7373 W Saginaw Hwy
Lansing, MI 48917

Or call: 517-679-5411