



Governor John R. Kasich

American Red Cross
Emergency Management Association of Ohio
Hands On, Central Ohio / Ohio Citizen Corps
National Weather Service
Ohio Department of Aging
Ohio Department of Commerce-State Fire Marshal
Ohio Department of Education

Ohio Department of Health
Ohio Department of Insurance
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Ohio Department of Public Safety -Ohio EMA
Ohio Department of Transportation
Ohio Insurance Institute
Ohio News Network

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 8, 2010

Contact Tamara McBride, Ohio EMA, at (614) 799-3695

**FORTY-NINE OHIO STUDENTS RECOGNIZED IN ANNUAL
STATE SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST**

COLUMBUS, OH – Lauren Piatt, a fourth grader in Adams County during the 2010-2011 school year, was recognized Saturday at the Ohio State Fair as the overall state winner in a statewide poster contest. Lauren’s poster on flood safety artistically illustrates an owl that informs people to “Be wise when the water starts to rise.”

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness chose Lauren’s poster as “the most informative, accurate and creative” out of the many posters received during its annual Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest.

As the overall state winner, Lauren received a variety of awards and prizes from the committee and its partners, to include a \$100 savings bond, a letter of congratulations from Governor John R. Kasich, a plaque from the National Weather Service, a smoke detector, a personal-sized rain gauge, a personalized trophy, and a host of other prizes. Later in the fall, her school will receive an engraved “traveling” trophy to showcase for the remainder of the school year. In an effort to promote severe weather preparedness, the committee will feature Lauren’s poster throughout the year.

Seven students, one from first through sixth grades and specialized instruction classes, were announced as state-level winners and received prizes and awards to include \$50 savings bonds, plaques, personal-sized rain gauges, smoke detectors and letters of congratulations from Gov. Kasich. They are: 1st Grader Kalynn Meade of Marion County; 2nd Grader Samantha Stephens of Geauga County; 3rd Grader Regan Draeger of Sandusky County; 4th Grader Alexis Armstrong of Summit County; 5th Grader Chelsea Brown of Pickaway County; 5th Grader Cellini Ko of Delaware County; and 6th Grader Sydney Allegretto of Mahoning County.

This year, a total of 49 students from 30 Ohio counties were honored as regional winners. The students represented grades 1-6 from 36 schools. As regional winners, every student artist received a certificate from the National Weather Service and sling backpacks full of prizes from the offices and their partners that make up the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness.

-more-

“Teaching Ohioans Severe Weather Safety and Preparedness”

www.weathersafety.ohio.gov

Since 1978, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness has conducted its annual poster contest. Since its inception, students have designed informative posters on severe weather safety and preparedness. The efforts of these students have helped the committee meet its overall goal – to educate Ohioans about the actions they can take to protect themselves and others before, during and after severe weather occurs.

Names of the 49 regional, state and overall state winners

(*) Denotes state winners

(**) Denotes the overall state winner

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Home County</i>		<i>Grade</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Home County</i>
Specialized Instruction	Chelsea Brown, 5 th gr* Jaelyn Lancaster, 4 th gr Caleb Sager, 5 th gr	Pickaway Allen Fulton				
1 st Grade	Sarah Alexander Todd Cozzuli Chelsea Horsley Mae Kirkbride Kaitlyn McFadden Kalynn Meade * Brandy Miller	Fairfield Huron Logan Tuscarawas Geauga Marion Paulding		4 th Grade	Alexis Armstrong* Savannah Douce Lily Medvin Lydia Murrey Lauren Piatt** Shaylee Shepherd Noah Shrock Cassie Thompson	Summit Marion Cuyahoga Henry Adams Tuscarawas Mercer Fairfield
2 nd Grade	Tiara Blevins Courtney Cookson Crimson Feeley Kamrey Folkert Joel Grimm Ava Krueger Samantha Stephens* Myra Yurchek	Logan Marion Williams Tuscarawas Madison Hamilton Geauga Ashland		5 th Grade	Sam Bennett Catelyn Cook Kirsten Kennedy Cellini Ko* Aubrey Lemley Emily Shonk MacKenzie Thomas Isabella Troutman	Montgomery Cuyahoga Adams Delaware Fulton Tuscarawas Wood Summit
3 rd Grade	Allison Ariza Courtney Beckley Kyle Bruns Rebecca Choi Regan Draeger Algonto Jackson Alex Shay	Mahoning Tuscarawas Mercer Putnam Sandusky Franklin Lorain		6 th Grade	Abbey Adkins Sydney Allegretto* Josiah Grimm Justice Guilliame Kitasha Mesmer Kaitlyn Rollins Reagan Shull Kenzie Zamberlan	Preble Mahoning Madison Williams Adams Cuyahoga Lucas Jefferson

All posters will be available to view on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Web site: www.weathersafety.ohio.gov.

###