

# Maryland State Winners and Finalists

## 2010 Letters About Literature

The Maryland Center for the Book is pleased to announce the Maryland state winners and finalists in the Letters About Literature writing contest. This signature program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress inspires young people to write to an author of a book that has somehow changed their worldview or themselves. Over 69,000 entries were received nationwide. We are delighted to recognize the achievements of the following Maryland students.

### Level 1 (Grades 4-6)

#### ***First Place***

Nimai Agarwal, Individual Entry, Germantown, Kate DiCamillo, *The Tale of Despereaux*

#### ***Second Place***

Cecilia Hsu, Burleigh Manor Middle School, Ellicott City, Janet Lee Carey, *Dragon's Keep*

#### ***Finalists***

##### **Individual Entries**

Conner Burkhardt, Annapolis, Greg Mortenson, *Three Cups of Tea*  
John Clark, Silver Spring, Scott Lobdell, *The Hardy Boys: The Ocean of Osyria*  
Aliia Matthew, Cabo Rojo, P.R., Bruce Olson, *Bruchko*  
Catherine Paxton, Kensington, Jaqueline Kelly, *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*  
Hana Santiago, Woodbine, Mary Downing Hahn, *All the Lovely Bad Ones*  
Christine Wang, Frederick, C.S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Silver Chair*

##### **Ashburton Elementary School, Bethesda**

Dane Graves, Jon J. Muth, *The Three Questions*  
Itsuki Takei, E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web*

##### **Chesapeake Academy, Arnold**

Paul Wyrrough, Kenneth Opper, *Silverwing* and *Sunwing*  
Katie Schuh, Lisa Greenwald, *My Life in Pink and Green*

##### **Chesapeake Public Charter, Lexington Park**

Andrew Williams, Lila Perl & Marion Blumenthal Lazan, *Four Perfect Pebbles*

##### **Chestertown Middle School, Chestertown**

Zoe Panas, J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter* series

##### **City Neighbors Charter School, Baltimore**

Timothy Johnson, Erin Hunter, *Warriors: Forest of Secrets*

**Dumbarton Middle School, Baltimore**

Maya Montgomery, Suzanne Collins, *The Hunger Games*  
Ariel Barbosa, Lisi Harrison, *The Clique* series  
Koharu Yachida, Joan M. Wolf, *Someone Named Eva*  
Christy Nymick, Carl Hiaasen, *Hoot*

**Emma K. Doub Elementary School, Hagerstown**

Grace Murdoch, Michael Buckley, *The Sisters Grimm: The Unusual Suspects*

**Galena Middle School, Galena**

Allison McDonald, Stephenie Meyer, *New Moon*

**Hebbsville Elementary School, Baltimore**

Remique Richardson, Rosa Parks, *I Am Rosa Parks*

**John Hanson Middle School, Waldorf**

Robert Russell, Jerry Spinelli, *Wringer*

**Lisbon Elementary School, Woodbine**

Ziam Khan, Ellen Raskin, *The Westing Game*

**Loch Raven Academy, Towson**

Chloe Harris, Julius Lester, *To Be a Slave*

**Mt. Savage Middle School, Mt. Savage**

Kayla Swauger, Erin Hunter, *Seekers: Great Bear Lake*

**Northern Middle School, Owings**

Strick Newsom, Andrew Clements, *Things Hoped For*  
Kaitlyn Hinds, Anne Frank, *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*

**Oakcrest Elementary School, Landover**

Malik McDermott, Ben Carson, *Gifted Hands*

**Our Lady of Mercy School, Potomac**

Lillian Paro, John Boyne, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*  
Soraya Sotudeh, Pam Munoz Ryan, *Esperanza Rising*  
Madison Kirchgessner, Laurie Halse Anderson, *Fever 1793*  
Tomas Cunha, Joseph Bruchac, *Code Talker*

**Patterson Mill Middle / High School, Bel Air**

Isabella Killian, Wilson Rawls, *Where the Red Fern Grows*  
Jeff Binder, Henry Winkler, *Niagara Falls, or Does It?*

**Radcliffe Creek School, Chestertown**

Daniel Taylor, Henry Winkler, *Barfing in the Backseat*

**Riderwood Elementary School, Towson**

Trevor Bishai, Rick Yancey, *The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp*

**St. Anne's School of Annapolis**

Michelle Gallatin, J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter* series  
McCall Johnson, R.L. Stine, *Fear Street*

**St. Margaret School, Bel Air**

Michael Ehart, Barack Obama, *speech on education*

**St. Martin's-in-the-Field Day School, Severna Park**

Julia Mathews, Watty Piper, *The Little Engine That Could*  
Corbett Glick, Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*  
Isabelle Carney, Lynn Plourde and Jason Cockcroft, *Thank You, Grandpa*

**St. Matthias Apostle School, Lanham**

Clay Newman, Kenneth Oppel, *Airborn* and *Skybreaker*

**Shady Side Elementary School, Shady Side**

Charlie Connors, Laurie Halse Anderson, *Vet Volunteers* series

**South Shore Elementary School, Crownsville**

Elissa Ogburn, Audrey Penn, *The Kissing Hand*  
Caleigh Plack, Gary Soto, *The Marble Champ*

**The Country School, Easton**

Zachary Ewing, Trenton Lee Stewart, *The Mysterious Benedict Society*

**Vincent Farm Elementary School, White Marsh**

Tina Le, Barbara Parks, *Junie B. Jones* series

**Waters Landing Elementary School, Germantown**

Ella Bogren, Liz Kessler, *The Tail of Emily Windsnap*

**Level 2 (Grades 7 & 8)**

***First Place***

Claire Wang, Individual Entry, Frederick, Katherine Paterson, *Bridge To Terabithia*

***Second Place***

Alayne Lynch, Washington Episcopal School, Bethesda, Elizabeth Moon, *The Speed of Dark*

## ***Finalists***

### **Individual Entries**

Arvind Kannan, Potomac, J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings*  
Reed Webber, Annapolis, Gordon Korman, *Schooled*

### **Bennett Middle School, Salisbury**

Kelly Travitz, Lois Lowry, *The Giver*

### **City Neighbors Charter School, Baltimore**

Nicholas Mantegna, James Patterson, *Maximum Ride*

### **Father Andrew White School, Leonardtown**

Nick Wilson, Dan Brown, *Angels and Demons*  
Ethan Rudman, Lois Lowry, *The Giver*

### **Galena Middle School, Galena**

Mackenzie Moorhouse, Cynthia Lord, *Rules*

### **John Hanson Middle School, Waldorf**

Natalie Jones, Paul Langan, *Bluford High* series

### **Lime Kiln Middle School, Fulton**

Brian Glenn, Tim Green, *Baseball Great*  
Rachel Samelson, Deborah Wiles, *Each Little Bird That Sings*  
Lauren Hessler, Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*  
Chris Moy, Mike Lupica, *Travel Team*

### **Mt. Savage Middle School, Mt. Savage**

Kaitlyn Booth, Lurlene McDaniel, *A Rose for Melinda*  
Brea Ishler, Lurlene McDaniel, *Let Him Live*

### **Patterson Mill Middle / High School, Bel Air**

Collin Peluso, Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*  
Natalie Brosh, Madeleine L'Engle, *A Wrinkle In Time*

### **Plum Point Middle School, Huntington**

Brooke Sweeney, Mitch Albom, *Tuesdays With Morrie*  
Hannah-Catherine Smith, Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*  
Candice Lambert, Jean Fritz, *The Double Life of Pocahontas*  
Isaiah Carter, John Coy, *Crackback*  
Rebecca Paschal, Shel Silverstein, *The Giving Tree*  
Jaime Park, Robert Munsch, *Love You Forever*

### **Radcliffe Creek School, Chestertown**

Austin Corace, Michael Scott, *The Alchemyst*

### **St. Anne's School of Annapolis**

Lillian Younkin, Martin Waddel, *The Tough Princess*

Charlie Lomax, Jack London, *The Call of the Wild*

Caroline Gonter, Trenton Lee Stewart, *The Mysterious Benedict Society*

Savannah Andersen, Stephenie Meyer, *Twilight series*

Rachel Crawford, Roald Dahl, *Danny the Champion of the World*

Chad Ivey, St. Anne's School of Annapolis, Ed Dunlop, *The Terrestria Chronicles series*

### **St. Joan of Arc School, Aberdeen**

Caitlyn McGill, Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*

### **St. John the Baptist, Silver Spring**

Seamus Long, J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter series*

### **St. Joseph School, Baltimore**

Elizabeth Lelonek, Langston Hughes, "Mother To Son"

William Villamayor, Ben Carson, *Gifted Hands*

### **St. Martin's-in-the-Field Day School, Severna Park**

Casey Glick, Carl Hiaasen, *Hoot*

Virginia Ritinski, John Boyne, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*

### **Salisbury Girls Home School Book Club, Salisbury**

Hannah Kaylor, Joan Bauer, *Hope Was Here*

Estrellita DeRepentigny, Catholic Book Publishing Company, *Lives of the Saints*

### **Salisbury Middle School, Salisbury**

Jacob Rousseau, Mike Lupica, *The Big Field*

Justin Maniatty, Carl Hiaasen, *Hoot*

Sean Cordovilla, Mame Farrell, *Bradley and the Billboard*

Kelley Barbre, Margaret Buffie, *Angels Turn Their Backs*

### **Samuel Ogle Middle School, Bowie**

Shelby Jones, Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*

### **Washington Episcopal School, Bethesda**

Marina Jackson, Norma Klein, *Girls Can Be Anything*

Rachel Weinberger, Orson Scott Card, *Ender's Game*

Nora Dahlberg, J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*

Daniel Wagner, Philip Caputo, *10,000 Days of Thunder: A History of the Vietnam War*

### **Wicomico Middle School, Salisbury**

Mike Angelot, Max Lucado, *You! God's Brand New Idea*

### **Wilde Lake Middle School, Columbia**

Iana Dingle, Jodee Blanco, *Please Stop Laughing at Me*

Jenny Haynes, James St. James, *Freak Show*

## Level 3 (Grades 9 and up)

### ***First Place***

Carson Wigley, Worcester Preparatory School, Berlin, Patricia Polacco, *Thank You, Mr. Falker*

### ***Second Place***

Sofia Ortiz, Kent County High School, Worton, Steve Lopez, *The Soloist*

### ***Finalists***

#### **Individual Entries**

Jennifer Bai, Cockeysville, Jodi Picoult, *Change of Heart*  
Kaitlynn-Marie Cendana, Great Mills, Ayn Rand, *Anthem*  
Timothy Danchik, Woodbine, J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings*  
Elizabeth Dean, Columbia, Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre*  
Bailey Falk, Davidsonville, Laurie Halse Anderson, *Speak*  
Nicki Jackson, Gaithersburg, Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*  
Megan Nyce, Cockeysville, Elie Wiesel, *Night*  
Francesca Pascual, Silver Spring, Neil Gaiman, *Neverwhere*  
Francois Johnson Pratt, Silver Spring, Henry Jones, *It's More Than a Notion*  
Melissa Rifkin, Frederick, Jodee Blanco, *Please Stop Laughing at Me*  
Alexandra Shiflett, Bel Air, F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*  
Rachel VanHorn, Elkton, Elie Wiesel, *The Perils of Indifference*

#### **Broadneck High School, Annapolis**

Nicholas Looft, Orson Scott Card, *Ender's Game*

#### **Dulaney High School, Timonium**

Emily Cool, Nicholas Sparks, *The Last Song*  
Jack Carmody, Max Brooks, *The Zombie Survival Guide*  
Bryce Harrison, Sue Corbett, *Free Baseball*  
Tate Berman, Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*  
Ariana Merrifield, Michael Lewis, *The Blind Side*

#### **Fort Hill High School, Cumberland**

Vanessa Bolinger, William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*  
Briana Kurek, Nicholas Sparks, *The Notebook*  
Madison Wilson, Mitch Albom, *For One More Day*

#### **Garrison Forest School, Reisterstown**

Emma Austin, Maya Angelou, "Still I Rise"

#### **Glenelg Country School, Ellicott City**

Hannah Methvin, Jay Asher, *Thirteen Reasons Why*

### **Kent County High School, Worton**

Kaitlin Lloyd, Maya Angelou, "Phenomenal Woman"  
Will Schaefer, *The Holy Bible*  
Heather Templeton, Ellen Hopkins, *Crank*  
Regan Hemstetter, Shel Silverstein, *The Giving Tree*

### **Loch Raven High School, Baltimore**

Justin Sottile-Jackson, Jonathan Safran Foer, *Everything Is Illuminated*

### **Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School #410, Baltimore**

Jaquetta Lawson, Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken"

### **Mount Hebron High School, Ellicott City**

Susan Hu, Nicholas Sparks, *Dear John*  
Brittany Waldecker, Michael Regan, *Twice Adopted*  
Stuart Russell, C.P. Cavafy, "Ithaca"  
Chiugo Izukchukwu, J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*  
Mohammed Khalid, Walter Dean Myers, *Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary*  
Rachel Richardson, Jonathan Safran Foer, *Everything Is Illuminated*

### **Mountain Ridge High School, Frostburg**

Karissa Fitzgerald, Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*

### **Northern High School, Owings**

Chaney Greenwood, Leo Bretholz, *Leap Into Darkness*

### **Notre Dame Preparatory, Towson**

Molly McShalley, Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn*  
Casey O'Neill, Sue Monk Kidd, *The Secret Life of Bees*  
Rachel Bolte, Allegra Goodman, *The Other Side of the Island*  
Maggie James, Shel Silverstein, *The Giving Tree*  
Erica Brooks, J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*  
Clare Goggin, Jeanette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

### **St. Paul's School for Boys, Brooklandville**

Chase Ward, F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

### **Stephen Decatur High School, Berlin**

Tyler Dark, Voltaire, *Candide*

### **Westlake High School, Waldorf**

Oluwaseun Obaro, Crystal Renn, *Hungry*

### **Worcester Preparatory School, Berlin**

Halie Murray-Davis, Lurlene McDaniel, *Hit and Run*