

## *Writing makes a difference winners announced*

By Mindy Farry, School Improvement Representative

Congratulations to the winners of the Buckeye Community Hope Foundation's (BCHF) annual Writing Competition. This year's contest asked the question: "Can One Person Change the World?" According to our student authors, the answer is a resounding, "Yes!"

Each school selected its individual winners at each grade level and submitted the school winners to BCHF. A team of four judges then scored each essay independently to determine the winners. The judges scored all papers on the Ohio Department of Education Writing Rubrics for each grade level.

The third through fifth grade division asked students to describe something they would like to invent to change the world. They were required to use information from two sources, explain their invention, and explain how their invention would change the world.

The winners in this division were:

- ◆ Grade 3: Markel Barlow from **Constellation Schools: Westside Community School of the Arts**
- ◆ Grade 4: Infinity Simon from **Imagine Hill Academy**
- ◆ Grade 5: Kshitiz Niroula from **Horizon Science Academy Elementary** (Columbus)

The overall champion for Grades 3-5 was Kshitiz Niroula from Horizon Science Academy Elementary.

In the sixth through eighth grade, students were reminded of the famous civil rights leader Mahatma Gandhi quote, "Be the change you want to see in the world." The writing prompt asked them to describe one way they would like to change the world. Students were asked to explain the change and how they could help bring it about.

The winners in this division were:

- ◆ Grade 6: Ian Calzado Cuesta—**Great Western Academy**
- ◆ Grade 7: Anna Krivoy—**Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Middle**
- ◆ Grade 8: Lani Southers—**Horizon Science Academy Youngstown**

The overall champion for Grades 6-8 was Anna Krivoy from Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn.

The high school students (grades 9-12) were asked a question about changing the world. They were asked to write an essay that was both informational and argumentative answering the question: "Can \_\_\_ save the world?" They could choose any attribute or item to fill in the blank to defend. Some students chose kindness; some chose a piece of environmental legislation.

The winners in this division were:

- ◆ Grade 9: Albina Iskandarova from **Horizon Science Academy Dayton High School**
- ◆ Grade 12: Mariah Hawkins from **Flex High School**

The overall champion for Grades 9-12 was Mariah Hawkins from Flex High School

When all scores were tallied and compared, one overall grand champion was selected. We are proud and excited to announce that Anna Krivoy from Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn was named grand champion.

Special thanks to these students' teachers for effectively working through the writing process of idea gathering, drafting, revising, critiquing, and editing. Their hard work not only benefitted the students who were winners, but all of their students as they learn the importance of writing as they proceed in their education.

Stay tuned for the 2019 Writing Challenge, which will be released for all students in November 2019.



Top to bottom: Kshitiz Niroula, Anna Krivoy & Mariah Hawkins