

2010 ENERGY ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

The Desk and Derrick Club of Tulsa has announced the winners of its fourteenth annual Energy Essay Contest for all middle school students (grades 6-8) within Tulsa County and the surrounding area. "The Many Uses For Natural Gas" was the 2010 essay topic. The contest encourages students to develop writing and researching skills while learning about important energy-related topics. Over 650 students from seven different middle schools and home schools participated in the contest.

Cash prizes totaling \$1895 will be awarded to the top ten essay authors, two honorable mention students and their sponsoring teachers. Judges for the contest were Gwen Humphrey, retired - Tulsa Public Schools; Kristie Luchtel Ferguson of Newfield Exploration Mid-Continent Inc; Robert Smith, retired – ONEOK Exploration, Inc. and Clyde Wootton of BRG Energy LLC.

Abby Edgeller, daughter of Jim and Beth Edgeller of Tulsa, is the first place winner. Abby is a student at the Union Eighth Grade Center. Checks for \$500 and \$250, respectively, will be presented to Abby and her sponsoring teacher, Linda Newkirk. Ms. Newkirk, Abby, her parents and brother Grant, Marla Robinson, Principal of the Union 8th Grade Center and the contest judges will be honored guests at a banquet and installation of officers to be held Wednesday, December 8 at the Green Onion restaurant hosted by the Desk and Derrick Club of Tulsa. Club President, Marilyn Trout of Cimarex Energy Company will preside. Susan Jones of HireRight will be installed as the group's president for 2011.

For the first time in the contest's history, all the winners are students at the Union 8th Grade Center. The second place essay author, **Mikayla Fitts** is also Linda Newkirk's student. **Marko Tardio**, a student of Lisa Malone, authored the third place essay. The fourth place award went to **Cole Roberts**, student of Linda Newkirk. **Joseph A. Maxwell** is the fifth place essayist and a student of Susan McMurchy.

The remaining winners are:

6 th	Taylor Brueggenjohann	Linda Newkirk, teacher
7 th	Amy Stall	Lisa Malone, teacher
8 th	Madeline Harney	Susan McMurchy, teacher
9 th	Jacob Lee	Susan McMurchy, teacher
10 th	Savannah Ramsey	Susan McMurchy, teacher

The two remaining finalists who achieved honorable mention status are **Abbie Cassody** (McMurchy) and **Katie Garcia** (Malone).

The Desk and Derrick Club is a nonprofit, energy educational group affiliated with the international Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs (ADDC). Its purpose is to promote the education and professional development of individuals employed in the petroleum, natural gas, energy and their related industries within the United States and Canada. The organization also reaches out to the community at large to provide educational opportunities concerning the energy industry through seminars, symposiums and the annual energy essay contest. For more information consult the website www.tulsadandd.net. The contest topic/rules are updated annually and posted on the website by August 15.

Contact Information:

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