

# **2023 Arizona Youth Contest Winners**

## **Youth – Grades 1-4** **Judged by Resa Ferreira**

### **First Place**

Isabella Cote from Sonoran Sky Elementary in Scottsdale ~ *Running Horse*

### **Second Place**

Masyn Welker from Sahuaro Elementary in Phoenix ~ *Born*

### **Third Place**

Raffaella Benaglio from Black Mountain Elementary in Scottsdale ~ *Loneliness*

### **Honorable Mentions**

Female from John E. White Elementary in Tucson ~ *Shoelaces*

Isaiah Knight Jillela from Legacy Online Academy in Chandler ~ *Poem, Poem, Where are You Hiding?*

Yoonseo Cho from CTA Independence Campus in Chandler ~ *Shine*

Mackenzie Darimont from Leman Academy in Oro Valley ~ *What can a cat do?*

Aeneas C. Pedrego from Homeschool in Green Valley ~ *The Quarterback*

## **Youth – Grades 5-8** **Judged by Janine P. Dubik**

### **First Place**

Meenasiam Clark from Kingman Academy of Learning Middle School in Kingman ~ *Dear Starchild*

### **Second Place**

Grace Blankenship from Fine Arts Academy in Avondale ~ *As the Rain Trickles Down the Drain*

### **Third Place**

Levi Olbert from Dorothy Hall Elementary in Yuma ~ *Waterparks*

### **Honorable Mentions**

Gracie Moore from American Leadership Academy in Gilbert ~ *My Garden*

Redwan Hossain from Laveen Village ~ *Ode to the Axolotls*

Natalie Leuschner from Glendale Preparatory Academy in Glendale ~ *A Day in the Life of a Doorknob*

Isabella Goodall from Esperero Canyon Middle School in Tucson ~ *As I see Me*

Daphney Gomez from Alice Byrne Elementary in Yuma ~ *A Way of Life*  
Youth from Alice Byrne Elementary in Yuma ~ *Little Monsters*

## **Youth – Grades 9-12** **Judged by Holly Parsons**

### **First Place**

Jacqueline Reyes from Metro Tech High School in Phoenix ~ *Achilles' Glory*

### **Second Place**

Julia Keefer from University High School in Tucson ~ *A Hawk Prepares to Eat*

### **Third Place**

Suhani Varshney from Pinnacle High School in Phoenix ~ *A Day in the Life of an Afghan Girl*

### **Honorable Mentions**

Male from Lake Havasu High School in Lake Havasu ~ *But All that I am is You*

Female from Intelli High School in Glendale ~ *If quiet was a sound*

Female from Mica Mountain High School in Tucson ~ *Worthy*

Cruz Martinez from Phoenix College Preparatory Academy in Phoenix ~ *Arizona*

Violet Hilderbrand from Marana High School in Marana ~ *My Country*