

For Immediate Release:

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Jesse White Honors Organ/Tissue Donor Poster Contest Winners

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White today honored four Illinois students who were the winners of the 30th Organ/Tissue Donor Poster Contest at a ceremony in his Statehouse office.

The overall winner was Zeyneb Efe, a third grade student at Horizon Science Academy-McKinley Park in Chicago. Zeyneb received a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, a certificate of congratulations and a personalized Illinois Blue Book from Secretary White for designing the best poster in the state. Copies of Zeyneb's winning poster will be displayed throughout the state.

"I want to congratulate Zeyneb for designing this year's top poster," White said. "Her poster will be used to help promote organ and tissue donation as we proudly display copies of it in Secretary of State Driver Services facilities, hospitals, libraries and other locations throughout Illinois."

The students who won the other age categories each received a gift certificate from Barnes and Noble and were given an award of congratulations and a personalized Illinois Blue Book from Secretary White. Winners were selected from four age groups: grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. The four winning poster designs were chosen from hundreds of entries sent in by students throughout Illinois. The poster contest is sponsored by the Secretary of State and Donate Life Illinois.

"I would like to congratulate each of our winners, as well as all the students who designed posters," said White. "These students displayed their artistic talents while also helping raise awareness for a lifesaving program."

Winners of each age category for this year's Organ/Tissue Donor Poster Contest are:

Winners:

K-2nd grade category:

Anna Worman, 1st grade, age 6, St. Bonafice in Edwardsville

3rd-5th grade category (and overall winner):

Zeyneb Efe, 3rd grade, age 8, Horizon Science Academy-McKinley Park in Chicago

6th-8th grade category:

Cassandra Medrano, 8th grade, age 14, Horizon Science Academy-McKinley Park in Chicago

9th-12th grade category:

Marissa Estrada, 11th grade, age 17, Horizon Science Academy-McKinley Park in Chicago