

## 2009 Art Tales Winners

The City of Ventura is pleased to announce the winners of the first annual Art Tales creative writing contest. Short stories and poems submitted in adult and youth categories were inspired by five Municipal Art Collection works of art on exhibit at the E.P. Foster Library:

1. Paul Benavidez Life Self-Portrait
2. Theodore Gall Virtual Reality
3. Parmlee Gomez Intrusive Idea
4. Chloe Murdock Walking the Dog
5. Christine Brennan Untitled

A committee of professionals judged entries on creativity, presentation and correspondence to a specific artwork: Elena Brokaw, Director of Community Services for the City of Ventura; Michael Tapia, Principal of E.P. Foster School; Mary Stewart, Head Librarian for E.P. Foster Library; and Richard Newsham, Marketing Specialist for the City of Ventura.

The winners are:

### Story – Adult

Gerald Zwiers	First Place	“Two”
Marsha De La O	Second Place	“Intrusive Thoughts”
Howard Smith	Honorable Mention	“Family Secret”

### Poem – Adult

Joan E. Day	First Place	“An Interpretation”
Donald Sommerfield	Second Place	“Crashing”
Teresa Pena Hibberd	Honorable Mention	“The Observer”

### Story – Youth

Brodie Shore	First Place	“Sadness”
Sofia Felino	Second Place	“The Departure”
Natasha Urban	Honorable Mention	“Praying Aliens”

### Poem – Youth

Annanlee Isabelle Chang	First Place	“Walking the Dog”
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The mayor honored contest writers at a special ceremony in the City Hall Council Chambers on March 16 where first and second place winners received a cash prize with their entries published on the city website.