

CITY OF VENTURA
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 25, 2013

Contact: Denise Sindelar, 658-4793

Richard Newsham, 658-4706

501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001

Art Tales winners honored at EP Foster Library reception & reading May 8

The City of Ventura Deputy Mayor Cheryl Heitmann honored all participants and artists of the fifth annual Art Tales creative writing contest with a special reception and reading with refreshments on the second floor of E.P. Foster Library, 651 E Main Street in downtown Ventura, on Wednesday, May 8, at 5:30 pm. The public came to hear winners read from their entries after receiving cash prizes for 1st and 2nd place, journals for 3rd place, and certificates and bound editions for all top entries.

For the 2013 contest “open to writers everywhere,” youth, high school and adult writers submitted a record high number of 100 works of short fiction and poetry inspired by City of Ventura Municipal Art Collection works of art currently on loan at the E.P. Foster Library and created by artists Richard Amend, Gayel Childress, Dorothy Hunter, Sherry Loehr, Gail Pidduck and Hiroko Yoshimoto (the artists were present at the reception). Contestants ranged in age from 6 to 88 with submissions from Southern California, the Bay area, St. Louis (MO) and Kent and Brunswick (OH). Over half the entries came from participating Ventura Unified School District students, classrooms and teachers.

The four contest judges were City of Ventura Cultural Affairs Commission member and poet/literary journal *Askew* co-editor Phil Taggart, Librarian for E.P. Foster Library Sara Roberts, Ventura Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Kathy Asher and City of Ventura Community Partnerships Manager Denise Sindelar, who said, “We thank writers of all ages for participating in the contest as well as the judges who evaluated all these works of poetry and fiction and who reported to me they were very impressed with the number of high quality submissions.”

Prize Youth Fiction

1st Sofia Felino
2nd Rachel Chang
3rd Hana Vrablik

High School Fiction

1st Kienna Kulzer
2nd Grace O’Toole
3rd -

Adult Fiction

1st Joni Porter
2nd Valerie Lynn Pike
3rd -

Youth Poetry

Dahyun Na
Nadia
Marissa Roberts

High School Poetry

Nicole Bellmore
Breanna Wheeler
Monica Boedigheimer

Adult Poetry

T.M. Göttl
Steve Brightman
Kimbrough Ernest

For more contact Denise Sindelar, 805.658.4793 or dsindelar@cityofventura.net.

This release is available at www.cityofventura.net. ###