



Recycling Coalition of WV, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2023

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Recycling Coalition honors five West Virginia students

The Recycling Coalition of West Virginia in collaboration with the WV Department of Environmental Protection and the WV Solid Waste Management Board has announced the five statewide, age-category winners in its annual West Virginia Recycles Youth Contests. Hundreds of entries in the five age groups were submitted from across the state. The goals of the contests are to encourage students to use their creativity and learn about recycling.

The Freedom Contest encourages students to create a painting or drawing, write a poem, compose or record a song, produce a video, write an essay, or complete another project with a recycling theme. This year's winner in the 9-12th Grade Category combined several talents into one entry. Josh Van Horn, a senior at Brooke High School used newspaper and magazine clippings to construct a self-portrait collage but documented the entire process using a camera to create a YouTube video. Not only did he edit this video, but he also wrote and performed the background music. The video and all winning entries can be seen on our website at WVRecycles.org or for Van Horn's video follow the link here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S74tqUgOBL4&t=9s>

Other winning entries in the Coalition's Freedom Contest were Ava Prior in the 4th-6th grade age group and Jennifer Ellison in the 7th-8th grade category, both students at Trinity Learning Center in Hico. All Freedom Contest winners received a \$75 prize and their teacher received a companion prize of \$100.

Winning entries in the Coloring Contest were Eli Prior in the K-1st grade category and Liam Davis in the 2nd-3rd grade division. Prior is a student at Trinity Learning Center in Hico. Davis is a student at Fayette County Homeschool Cooperative in Oak Hill. In the Coloring Contest, students identified and colored the recyclable, compostable and trash items on a coloring sheet, then cut and pasted the items next to a drawing of the appropriate compost, recycle or trash bin. Prior and Davis each received a \$25 Visa gift card and their teachers each received a \$75 Visa gift card for classroom materials.

All prize money was made possible by a donation from Republic Services.

The Recycling Coalition of West Virginia is a non-profit environmental organization whose mission is to promote the effective and sustainable reduction, reuse and recycling of materials otherwise destined for disposal. The Recycling Coalition pursues these goals through the promotion of purchasing products made with recycled content material; by coordinating and facilitating activities relative to recycling; and by fostering communications among organizations, government agencies and individuals through the sharing of ideas and resources.

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