

Conway Christian Students Take Numerous Awards in State and National Competitions

Two students from Conway Christian School have earned a place in school history by placing in the 2007 national fine arts competition sponsored by the American Association of Christian Schools.

The two are vocalist Margaret Duncan, a junior, and photographer Lindsey Morgan, a freshman.

Both earned the right to go to nationals by winning first place on the state level in mid-March at the rigorously judged competition sponsored by the South Carolina Association of Christian Schools (SCACS).

At nationals, Duncan competed against students from 26 other states to place third in the category of female vocal solo.

She sang the Italian aria "O Mio Del Ardo" ("The Object of My Ardent Desire") as well as "The Lord is My Light" by Frances Allitsen, both to live piano accompaniment by Robin Duncan.

Duncan also represented South Carolina in the category of Expository Writing: Essay.

Meanwhile, Morgan placed second in the digital photography category at nationals after winning first place in all three photo categories on the state level: digital, color film, and black and white film.

Her winning entry at nationals – a shot of a tennis ball and racket taken while lying on her stomach on a blue tennis court – had already taken the ribbon for Best in Show for Level IV photography at SCACS.

Conway Christian has sent competitors to at least three previous national competitions, but has never before placed. The nationals are open only to students in grades 9-12. This year's competition was held in early April in Greenville, SC.

In state competition, CCS posted a strong showing in academics as well as in fine arts. Middle and high school students competed with other Christian school students from across the state, while elementary students were judged on a lower/upper state basis. Those receiving certificates or awards include:

Level I (1st – 3rd grades)

Female Vocal Solo – Jessica Lindsey, 2nd grade, superior rating.

Monochromatic drawing, polychromatic drawing – Shelley Sasser, 2nd grade, excellent in both categories.

Classical piano – Victoria Smith, 3rd grade, excellent.

Poetry – Audrey Hinson, 3rd grade, excellent.

Level II (4th -6th grades)

Small Vocal Ensemble -- Elizabeth Timmons, 4th grade, and Elijah Timmons, 6th grade, superior. Chosen for showcase recital.

Male vocal solo – Ethan Jacobs, 5th grade, superior.

Classical piano – Lexi Richardson, 4th grade, excellent; Ryan McCormick, 5th grade, excellent.

Poetry – Jessica Lewis, 4th grade, excellent.

Sacred piano – Michaela Rosensky, 6th grade, superior, Jennifer Kosin, 4th grade, excellent.

Digital photography – Rachel Newlands, 4th grade, excellent.

Monochromatic drawing, digital photography, black and white photography, color photography – Kelsey Morgan, 6th grade, superior in all four categories, Best in Show – photography.

Math – Gregory Roberts posted the highest score statewide for grade 4; Brittany Clark, third highest for grade 5; Krisda Sanders, third highest for grade 6 and Kelsey Morgan, fourth highest for grade 6.

Science – Brittany Clark, highest, and Graham Jackson, second, for grade 5.

History – Gregory Roberts, highest, grade 4; Brittany Clark, highest, Brooke Colpetzer second and Ryan McCormick fourth for grade 5; Kelsey Morgan, third for grade 6.

English – Mary Kathryn Tilma, highest for grade 4. For grade 5, Brittany Clark, Donna Lewis, and Brooke Colpetzer scored first, second, and third respectively. For grade 6, Madison Norris scored second.

Level III (middle school)

Female Vocal Solo – Dori Sanders, 8th, Superior,.

Creative Writing: Poetry – Jonathan Lewis, 8th, first place statewide; Taylor Jackson, 8th, second place.

English testing – Jonathan Lewis, 8th, first place statewide; Brooke Clark, Blake Colpetzer, Keenan Lineback, and Elizabeth Vaughn, 8th, Excellent.

Expository Writing: Essay – Jonathan Lewis, 8th, second place statewide.

Algebra I – Elizabeth Vaughn, 8th, third place statewide.

History/Geography – Jonathan Lewis, 8th, second place statewide.

Science – Jonathan Lewis, 8th, first place statewide; Travis Sanders, 7th, third place statewide.

Level IV (high school)

Creative Writing: Poetry – Duncan Perry, 9th grade, first place statewide; George Henry Martin, 12th, second place statewide. Excellent ratings went to seniors John Perry and Natasha Morgan, sophomore Ian Jackson, and freshmen Weber

Barker, Anne Marie Martin, and Duncan Perry.

English testing – Caroline Smith, 11th, and Morgan Benton, 10th, excellent.

Expository Writing: Essay – Margaret Duncan, 11th, first place in the state. Superior ratings went to seniors Julia Brown, Stephen Georg, and George Henry Martin, junior Caroline Smith, and sophomore Morgan Benton. Excellent ratings went to seniors Jonathan Walton and Natasha Morgan, and to sophomores Elena House and Ian Jackson.

Advanced mathematics – Austin Wright, 12th, third place statewide.

Political Science/Economics – Austin Wright, 12th, third place statewide.

Female Vocal Solo – Anne Marie Martin, 9th, excellent.

Male Vocal Solo – Weber Barker, 9th, superior, third place statewide.

Small Vocal Ensemble – Weber Barker, 9th, and Anne Marie Martin, 9th, superior.

Woodwind Solo – Duncan Perry, 9th, (bagpipes), third place statewide.

Spelling Bee – Natasha Morgan, 12th, fourth place statewide.

CCS Principal Connie Smith said she was extremely excited to see the school's strong showing both in fine arts and academics. She noted that recently released Stanford test scores ranked CCS's fourth grade scores as the highest among the state's Christian schools, all of which ranked well above the national and state averages for all schools, public and private.