



May 2009

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2009 Art Contest, sponsored by the State Department Federal Credit Union. The annual contest challenges U.S. Foreign Service youth to create art in any flat medium based on a given theme. The 2009 theme was "The Colors of My World." Three winning artists in each of three age categories received generous cash prizes made possible by the State Department Federal Credit Union. All nine winners were honored at the Youth Awards Ceremony in the Benjamin Franklin Room in the Harry S. Truman Building in Washington, DC on July 17, 2009.

**Laura Friloux**

First place in the 5-8 age category and \$500 was awarded to 8-year-old Laura Friloux. Laura is the daughter of Kevin and Zoe Friloux, posted to Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. She began 2nd grade at the International School in Port of Spain and finished it at Thomas Jefferson Elementary in Falls Church, Virginia where she is living temporarily with her family, including a brand new baby brother. In addition to drawing, Laura enjoys reading, swimming and other sports.

**Sierra Raymond**

Second place in the 5-8 age category and \$250 was awarded to 8-year-old Sierra Raymond. Sierra is the daughter of Joseph and Susan Raymond, posted to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. She recently completed 2nd grade at Radford School in El Paso, Texas. In addition to painting, Sierra loves drawing animated characters, swimming and playing sports.

**Tasman Barak Zibas Loutfi**

Third place in the 5-8 age category and \$100 was awarded to 7-year-old Tasman Barak Zibas Loutfi. Tasman is the son of Adham and Crystal Zibas Loutfi, who recently returned from Paris, France. He completed 1st grade at the International School of Paris. In addition to art, Tasman enjoys math, science and reading. He loves to collect brochures, tickets and souvenirs from his travels around the world, and his favorite activity is taking things apart.

**Nathalie Isabella Scharpf**

First place in the 9-12 age category and \$500 was awarded to 12-year-old Nathalie Isabella Scharpf. Nathalie is the daughter of Donna LaPorte Scharpf and N. Thatcher Scharpf. The family just returned from a three-year posting to Belgrade, Serbia, where Nathalie finished 6th grade at the International School of Belgrade. In addition to drawing, Nathalie enjoys reading, playing tennis, acting in school plays, playing the piano, singing in the school choir, riding bikes, and playing with her friends and her two younger brothers.

**Pauline Mak**

Second place in the 9-12 age category and \$250 was awarded to 12-year-old Pauline Mak. Pauline is the daughter of Caleb and Ling-Yen Mak, posted to Berlin, Germany. She recently completed the 7th grade at Berlin Brandenburg International School. In addition to drawing, Pauline enjoys music, playing video and computer games, making animations, reading and writing stories.

**Gracia Luoma-Overstreet**

Third place in the 9-12 age category and \$100 was awarded to 12-year-old Gracia Luoma-Overstreet. Gracia is the daughter of Charles and Kristine Luoma-Overstreet, posted to Washington, DC. She recently completed the 7th grade at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington, Virginia. In addition to drawing, Gracia enjoys soccer, reading, writing stories, painting and spending time with animals.

**Gabriella Marafino**

First place in the 13-18 age category and \$500 was awarded to 16-year-old Gabriella Marafino. Gabriella is the daughter of Richard and Sherrie Marafino, posted to Moscow, Russia. She recently completed the 11th grade at The Anglo-American School. In addition to painting, Gabriella enjoys creative writing, reading, and swimming.

**Emilie Williams**

Second place in the 13-18 age category and \$250 was awarded to 14-year-old Emilie Williams. Emilie is the daughter of Timothy and Dominique Williams, posted to Astana, Kazakhstan. She recently completed the 9th grade at the QSI International School. In addition to drawing and painting, Emilie enjoys jogging, playing tennis and basketball, reading and doing Sudoku puzzles. She also enjoys photography and will take any opportunity to do her favorite thing—travel.

**Allison Davis**

Third place in the 13-18 age category and \$100 was awarded to 14-year-old Allison Davis. Allison is the daughter of Charles and Elaine Davis, posted to Singapore. She recently completed the 8th grade at the Singapore American School. In addition to drawing, Allison enjoys animals and creative writing. She has been writing books since the age of 7 and plans to be a published author and illustrator some day.

Everyone associated with the Foreign Service Youth Foundation, the State Department Federal Credit Union, the Family Liaison Office and the Department of State congratulates the 2009 Art Contest winners. Together with the nearly 100 other artists who entered the contest, they demonstrate the creativity, skill and enthusiasm of U.S. Foreign Service youth.

2010 art contest entries are due in April 2010. To receive more information about the contest and other exciting programs organized by the Foreign Service Youth Foundation, please send an email to [fsyf@fsyf.org](mailto:fsyf@fsyf.org).