



June 2011

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 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 2011 theme was "An American In..." The winning artists in each of three age categories received generous cash prizes made possible by the State Department Federal Credit Union. All ten winners will be honored at the Youth Awards Ceremony in the Benjamin Franklin Room in the Harry S. Truman Building in Washington, DC on July 15, 2011.

## **AGES 5-8**

### **Braden Bitner**

First place in the 5-8-age category and \$500 was awarded to 8-year-old Braden Bitner for, "Around the World." He is the son of Steven and Katie Bitner currently posted to Washington, D.C. He is a 2nd grader at Canterbury Woods Elementary School. In his free time, Braden enjoys drawing and painting but his real love is working with clay. His other hobbies include playing piano, tennis, creating LEGO and K'nex. He also loves playing with his little sisters and friends. Brady has lived in Poland and Costa Rica and will be moving to Jerusalem this summer.

### **Gabriel Hastings**

Second place in the 5-8-age category and \$250 was awarded to 9-year-old Gabriel Hastings for, "An American in Awe of the Atomium Brussels." He is the son of Daniel and Maya Hastings currently posted to Yerevan, Armenia. Gabriel is a 3rd grader at Quality Schools International-Yerevan. His hobbies include reading the *Captain Underpants* books, inventing dinosaurs and creatures with his *Zoob* toy, and painting action scenes of *Pokémon* figures. Gabriel has lived overseas with his parents, brother Nicky, and sister Steffie in Cairo (Egypt), Vladivostok (Russia), and Yerevan (Armenia). When he grows up, he wants to become either an inventor of remote flying objects that monitor and protect the environment, or a paleontologist who discovers the fossils of a dinosaur species larger than all others to date.

### **Emma Keller**

Joint third place in the 5-8-age category and \$100 was awarded to 8-year-old Emma Keller for, "Looking Out of My Bus Window." She is the daughter of Greg Keller & Yukari Oshiro currently posted to Kathmandu, Nepal. Emma is a second grader at the Lincoln School, Kathmandu. Her hobbies include gardening, watching Phineas and Ferb on TV, and playing Nintendo DS. She has previously lived overseas in Japan and Ecuador.

**Hannah Ha-Eun Kim**

Joint third place in the 5-8-age category and \$100 was awarded to 8-year-old Hannah Ha-Eun Kim for, "An American in Ouagadougou." She is the daughter of Suzanne and Kwang Kim currently posted to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Hannah is a 3rd grader at the International School of Ouagadougou (ISO). Her hobbies include reading, drawing, making origami, playing soccer, and learning French. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso is her first Foreign Service tour.

**AGES 9-12****Caitlin Chaisson**

First place in the 9-12 age category and \$500 was awarded to 10-year-old Caitlin Chaisson for, "An American in Uzbekistan." She is the daughter of Christopher and Frederique Chaisson currently posted to Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Caitlin is a 4th grader at Tashkent International School (TIS). Her hobbies include drawing (especially animals) and designing clothes. She would love to become a fashion designer one day. Caitlin has lived in Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan. She speaks English, French, and Russian fluently, and is learning Chinese.

**Katharine Schlachter**

Second place in the 9-12 age category and \$250 was awarded to 11-year-old Katharine Schlachter for, "An American in Johannesburg." She is the daughter of Mark and Beth Schlachter currently posted to Washington, D.C. Katharine is a 5th grader at Oakridge Elementary School in Arlington, VA. Her hobbies include reading, drawing, and playing with her dog. Katie and her family have served in Warsaw, Kampala, and Johannesburg.

**Sydney Selam Domaingue**

Third place in the 9-12 age category and \$100 was awarded to 11-year-old Sydney Selam Domaingue for, "An American in Egypt." She is the daughter of Robert and Klara Domaingue currently posted to Washington, D.C. Sydney is a 6th grader at the Mosby Woods Elementary School. Her hobbies include playing soccer, taking pictures, and training her dog. Next year she will move to Nepal.

**AGES 13-18****Jillian Luoma-Overstreet**

First place in the 13-18-age category and \$500 was awarded to 17-year-old Jillian Luoma-Overstreet for, "A Friend In Need." She is the daughter of Charles and Kris Luoma-Overstreet currently posted to Washington, D.C. Jillian is an 11th grader at Washington-Lee High School where she plays volleyball and acts. Her hobbies include drawing, writing poetry, and reading. Fiji, Nicaragua, Mexico, Benin, South Africa, and three languages later, Jill is now back in the U.S.

**Olivia Doret**

Second place in the 13-18 age category and \$250 was awarded to 14-year-old Olivia Doret for, "Where To Next?" She is the daughter of Gerard and Katharine Doret currently posted to Paris, France. Olivia is an 8th grader at the American School of Paris. Her hobbies include drawing, playing sports such as softball, tennis, volleyball, and basketball, and listening to music. She has lived in New York and Virginia before moving to Paris. Olivia loves dogs, manga, and shopping.

**Castilleja Kuzis**

Third place in the 13-18 category and \$100 was awarded to 16-year-old Castilleja Kuzis for, "An American in Awe." She is the daughter of Richard Uberuaga and Karen Kuzis currently posted to Colombo, Sri Lanka. Castilleja is an 11th grader at the Overseas School of Colombo. Her hobbies include sculpting and art. After graduating next year, she aims to travel the world and pursue a degree in arts or business.

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 2011 Art Contest winners. Together with over 110 other artists who entered the contest, they demonstrate the creativity, skill, and enthusiasm of U.S. Foreign Service youth.

The 2012 art contest entries are due in April 2012. 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).