



For Immediate Release
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Earth Day Celebration Essay Contest Winners Announced

Kansas City, MO - In celebration of Earth Day, Tuileries Plaza sponsored an essay contest based on completing the statement: *"I could help the earth by....."*

Grades K-2 Entrants could either draw a picture or write an essay of up to 300 words representing how they could help the earth. Entries were limited to a single page and could be hand written or typed by the student or their parents.

Grades 3-5: Entrants could write an essay of up to 500 words representing how they could help the earth. Entries were limited to a single page and could be hand written or typed by the student.

Entries were judged on several criteria including: 1) Thoughtfulness, 2) Proposed actions, 3) Commitment to action 4) Relevance of content to topic. Writing an essay with a plan or creating a picture to demonstrate action took precedence over handwriting, spelling or punctuation. Essays and pictures were judged by an independent group of individuals from the community. Each participant received a seed packet and was encouraged to plant the seeds as part of their plan to help the earth.

Grand Prize winner of a \$500 Savings Bond was Second Grader, Christine Midea from English Landing Elementary School.

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\$50 Savings Bond winners were as follows:

Kindergarten - Rachel Midea – English Landing Elementary School

First Grade – Caleb Schempp – Hope Lutheran School

Fourth Grade – Kathryn Bracale – English Landing Elementary School

Fifth Grade – Tara Simone – Union Chapel Elementary School

“This is the first year Tuileries Plaza has sponsored this event and we were pleased with the entries we received this year. We hope to expand the event next year with more Earth Day activities,” stated Aimee Gunter from Tuileries Plaza office.

All essays will be displayed at Tuileries Plaza April 18 - May 5, 2008

