

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jenna Meriwether
(210)299-1533
(210)213-7616 cell
(210) 299-1550 fax
jenna.meriwether@sayl.org

LOCAL STUDENT WINS ART CONTEST

SAN ANTONIO, TX - Kathryn Jo Donnell, a 10 year old student enrolled in the Boys & Girls Club of San Antonio - Calderon Branch's after school program, won the grand prize for San Antonio Youth Literacy's (SAYL) *Rock & Read Art Contest*. Two other Boys and Girls Club students were recognized: Reynoldo Guzman won 2nd place and Rahel Martinez won 3rd. The award was presented by SAYL Board Members and staff at a recognition event held at the Plaza Club on January 20, 2005. The students' families and staff from the Boys and Girls Club were in attendance, as were judges Colleen Frost (ASKEW), John Hinojosa (Say Si), and Felix Padron (Office of Cultural Affairs for the City of San Antonio).

The poster contest, held in conjunction with SAYL's annual *Rock & Read Gala*, offered students at all of SAYL's "Let's Read!" program sites the opportunity to submit their artwork and win prizes, including savings bonds from Frost Bank. Kathryn's original piece, titled "Rockin' with Books", will be auctioned as a live auction item to the highest bidder. It will also be reproduced in a limited quantity and sold at the gala. Kathryn and her parents have been invited to the gala so that she can sign and number each poster sold. The 2nd and 3rd place posters, along with other outstanding submissions, will be auctioned off during a silent art auction at the gala.

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“The children in our program mean so much to us, and they are why we are proud of our ‘Let’s Read!’ program,” said Sandra Allen, Executive Director. “SAYL is very excited to be able to recognize students at our program sites for their many talents.”

SAYL’s 2005 *Rock & Read Gala* will be held March 5, 2005 at the Marriott Rivercenter. SAYL will be honoring H-E-B for its outstanding commitment to excellence in education throughout its 100 years of service in San Antonio.

San Antonio Youth Literacy, whose mission is to promote the literacy skills of San Antonio’s at-risk youth, was founded in 1984 by Harriet Marmon Helmle. Today its “Let’s Read!” program, which offers children one-on-one tutoring with trained Volunteer Reading Tutors, is available in over 25 schools and child care agencies throughout the city. For more information about San Antonio Youth Literacy, volunteer opportunities, or to donate books or money, call (210) 299-1533.

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