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**State of Vermont**

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**James C. Condos, Secretary of State**

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**For immediate release**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **2016 Poster and Essay Contest Winners**

Secretary of State Jim Condos is excited to announce the winning entries from the 2016 Vermont Poster and Essay Contest. The first place student in each category will visit Montpelier with their class on May 24th for a tour of the Vermont State House, the Vermont Historical Society, and an awards celebration with Secretary Condos.

The Awards Ceremony will take place at 12:00 PM, May 24th in the State House, where each first place student is recognized with a certificate and state pin.

This year we received over one hundred entries. It was also the first year we accepted video entries from older students. "It is always a great privilege to view these student submissions. Through their posters and essays, I have a better understanding of the many ways Vermont history and politics is important to each student," stated Secretary Condos. "With so many excellent pieces to choose from, it is always difficult to pick the winners." Second and third place entries are also honored for their outstanding work. These students will be mailed their awards.

The Vermont Secretary of State's Poster and Essay Contest is an annual event to promote awareness of Vermont history, the Vermont Constitution, and the importance of democracy among students in Grades K-12. The program helps encourage younger students to think about Vermont history while asking older students to contemplate the issues that impact them.

This year's award recipients are:

#### **Grades K-2**

##### **First Place**

Maya Villemaire  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Elm Hill School

##### **Second Place**

Samantha Ruth Pedrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Reading Elementary School

##### **Third Place**

Christian Bisceglia  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Killington Elementary School

## **Grades 3-5**

### **First Place**

Molly Luikart

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Poultney Elementary School

### **Second Place**

Madison Bowman

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Coventry Village School

### **Third Place**

Adelie Tebbetts

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Montessori School of Central Vermont

## **Grades 6-8**

### **First Place**

Dylan Haskins

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: People's Academy Middle Level

Link to video submission (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpTt8rW-0M>)

### **Second Place**

Madeleine Rose Moino

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School

## **Grades 9-12**

### **First Place**

Ari Randall

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Avalon Triumvirate Academy

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