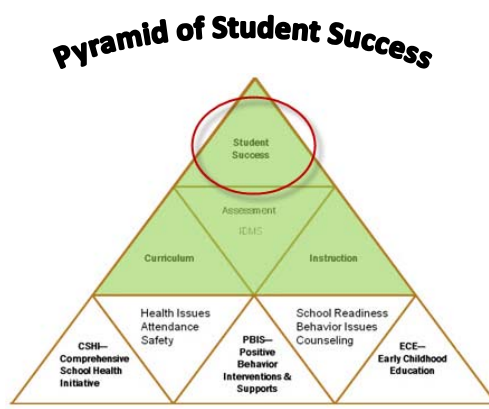




Snowline School District Celebrates Young Authors & Young Artists



Young Authors

This year marks the 22nd year that Snowline School District students have had an opportunity to participate in Young Authors. The first conference was held May 15, 1984, at Maple Elementary School in Hesperia. It brought 221 students from six local school districts together to share their writing. Since that time, thousands of High Desert students have participated in the annual contest meant to foster reading and writing skills.

Mrs. Melanie Premo, a teacher at Desert View Independent School, has really been the driving force of the Young Authors Conference here at Snowline. She has coordinated the contest and event for several years. Mrs. Premo does it because she believes it is good for students and wants to see students be recognized for their writing ability. Mrs. Premo has been with Snowline since 1994.

Each year well over 100 young authors are honored at the Young Authors Conference. Do you know what happens at the Conference?

- Authors are given the chance to read their book to a small audience.
- Each year a published author is invited to attend the Conference.

Students can see that good writing can lead to a career and have a chance to meet and talk with a published children's author.

- A Scholastic book fair is held.

For each book, there are two bound copies; one for the student and one for the school library. Every Young Authors book, since 1984, currently resides in one of the Snowline's school libraries. Many school libraries have a shelf dedicated to Young Author selections. Students enjoy reading them and often find one written by a family member or friend.



Mrs. Premo, takes a moment away from her duties as the event coordinator to have her picture taken with her children, and Young Authors, at the Conference on May 7.



This year's Young Author Conference welcomed author Mrs. Julianna Cruz. Her book is entitled Tommy and Teresa Trout: A Learning Journey from Egg to Fry.



Mrs. Amanda Knisely, who currently teaches fifth grade at Wrightwood Elementary School, was selected as a Young Author in 1988. Recently her students enjoyed hearing her read her book, The Magic Egg.



Mrs. Maryann Kunz, librarian at Wrightwood Elementary School, encourages students to read books written by former students. According to Mrs. Kunz, the kids love reading them.



Young Artists

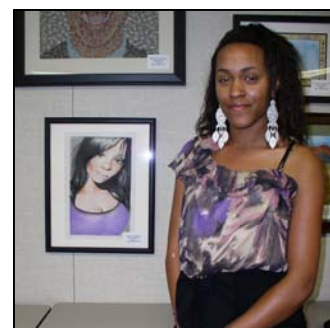
This is the 9th year Snowline has sponsored a district-wide art contest. Students in every grade level are eligible to enter one piece of artwork. If selected, their artwork is framed and is hung in the Snowline School Board of Education Room for one year. Folks attending Board Meetings, trainings, and other events in the room are able to enjoy the variety of mediums and styles represented. The Young Artists' art pieces are also available to view on the district website.

Several students have winning entries multiple years, and many former Young Artists have gone on to college and careers in the world of art or graphic design.

Lisa Fitch, Art teacher at Serrano High School, is thrilled that the District supports our young artists. She says "this venue helps students meet an advanced California Visual Art Standard (2.3) by allowing them to display their artwork as part of a public exhibition. But, beyond academic recognition, this type of personal achievement promotes esteem that may be just the encouragement a student needs to seek a career in the Arts."



2010 Snowline Young Artists being honored at the April 13 Board Meeting.



Tyshayla Robinson stands beside her 2010 winning art entitled "Sanaa Lathan." Tyshayla's artwork has been selected each of the last four years.



2010 Young Artist gallery in the Snowline School Board of Education Room in the Curriculum & Educational Services building.



Previous authors to attend the Conference are 2009 author Mrs. Ann Whitford Paul and 2007 author Joshua Nash. Mr. Nash is also a Serrano High School graduate.

