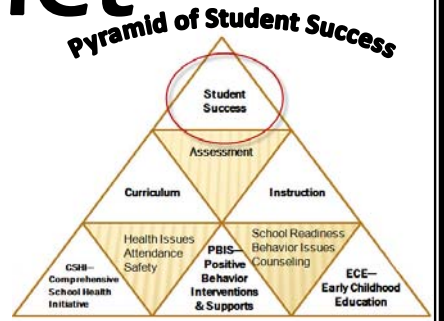


# Snowline School District



www.snowlineschools.com

## Celebrates Young Authors & Young Artists



### Young Authors

This school year marks the 23rd 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 been the driving force of the Young Authors Conference in 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 them be recognized for their writing ability. She has been working in Snowline since 1994.

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

- Authors are given the chance to read their books 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 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.



Each year an author is welcomed at the conference. This year our guest author was award-winner Dawn Menge, along with co-author on one of her books Heath Rhoades. Mrs. Menge and Mr. Rhoades were a big hit this year. Not only did they sign books, but they had fun crafts for the kids to enjoy.



In addition to the conference itself, a book fair is set up for families to browse through a big selection of books. Proceeds from purchases go towards funds used to put on the next year's conference. Selecting books is one of this year's Young Authors, Brandon Forbes.



Each year a character is brought to life by Amy McConnell Sutton. She is happy to take pictures with all the Young Authors and their families. Young Author Chloe Premo is seen with Mrs. McConnell Sutton, otherwise known as The Cat in the Hat.

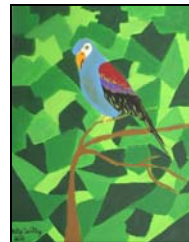


Brynn Knowlton is pictured above reading her story, *Kaedon's Birthday*. Each year a special area is designated at the conference so Young Authors can read their stories aloud to an audience.

### Young Artists

This is the 10th 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 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.



2011 Snowline Young Artists being honored at the May 10 Board Meeting.



Young Artists (from left to right) Katrena Painter, Jade Martinez, and Avanti Martinez proudly stand by their artwork.



Happy to stand in front of their artwork are Erin Ward and Gersemy Martinez.



2011 Young Artist gallery in the Snowline School Board of Education Room in the Curriculum & Educational Services building.

