



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Students illustrate the importance of buckling up; contest winners announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Alabama Department of Public Health's Injury Education Division announces the winners in its Buckle-Up, Alabama! Traffic Safety Poster Contest for 2006, an event designed to promote consistent seat belt usage among elementary school children. Students from throughout Alabama in grades kindergarten through sixth were invited to create original artwork that emphasized the importance of buckling-up.

The Buckle-Up contest consists of two levels. Participating schools hosted a contest to select first place winners for each grade level. These winning entries were then sent to the health department to be judged by employees of the Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease.

First and second place winners at the state level were awarded U.S. Savings Bonds, with first place winners receiving a \$100 bond and second place winners receiving a \$50 bond. These winners, as well as those receiving honorable mention, were awarded certificates of recognition. Additionally, the winning entries are featured in a coloring book that will be used throughout Alabama to educate young children about the importance of buckling-up each and every time that they ride in a vehicle.

The 2006 Buckle-Up, Alabama! contest winners are as follows:

Kindergarten:

1st Dasia Primus, Garywood Christian School, Hueytown, Ala.

2nd Lundy Davis, Monroe Academy, Monroeville, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Anna Davis, East Memorial Christian Academy, Prattville, Ala.

Haleigh Burgess, Vernon Elementary School, Vernon, Ala.

Nick Robinson, Walter M. Kennedy Elementary School, Pell City, Ala.

1st Grade:

1st Erica Smith, Harlan Elementary School, Florence, Ala.

2nd Cole Brown, Trinity Presbyterian School, Montgomery, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Austin Foster, Glenwood School, Phenix City, Ala.

Sabrina White, Odenville Elementary School, Odenville, Ala.

Winter Thorington, Trinity Presbyterian School, Montgomery, Ala.

2nd Grade:

1st Kennedy Synclair Smith, Andalusia Elementary School, Andalusia, Ala.

2nd Jack H. Patton, Guntersville Elementary School, Guntersville, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Allison Joyner, Monroe Academy, Monroeville, Ala.

Ashleigh Payne, Priceville Elementary School, Decatur, Ala.

3rd Grade:

1st Carrington Cole, Trinity Presbyterian School, Montgomery, Ala.

2nd Lydia Carol Davis, G.W. Long Elementary School, Skipperville, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Alex Wheeler, Vernon Elementary School, Vernon, Ala.

Brooklyn Ferguson, Meek Elementary School, Arley, Ala.

4th Grade:

1st Amanda Skipper, Andalusia Elementary School, Andalusia, Ala.

2nd Brady Fuller, Horseshoe Bend School, New Site, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Shanda Wright, Brilliant Elementary School, Brilliant, Ala.

Stephanie Nicole Witt, Cleveland Elementary School, Cleveland, Ala.

Jacob Losey, Harlan Elementary School, Florence, Ala.

5th Grade:

1st Maria Renteria, Geraldine School, Geraldine, Ala.

2nd Molly Catherine Brown, Trinity Presbyterian School, Montgomery, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Heather Andrews, Geraldine School, Geraldine, Ala.

Leslie Walter, Ridgecrest Elementary School, Huntsville, Ala.

6th Grade:

1st Edward Lewis Aultman, Greensboro West Elementary School, Greensboro, Ala.

2nd Evan Gunter, Westbrook Christian School, Rainbow City, Ala.

Honorable Mention:

Bethany Slingluff, Calcadeaver Elementary School, Mount Vernon, Ala.

John Blakely Lucas, Horseshoe Bend School, New Site, Ala.

Jamie Sikes, Southern Choctaw Elementary School, Gilbertown, Ala.

The Buckle-Up! Alabama poster contest is made possible by a grant from the Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

Awards given with this contest are made available by businesses and organizations committed to the safety of Alabama's children. These include the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, ALFA Insurance, the Alabama Department of Transportation, and the Alabama SAFE KIDS Coalition.

For more information about seat belt safety, please contact Nancy Wright, Injury Prevention Division, Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease, (334) 206-7063 or 1-800-252-1818, e-mail nwright@adph.state.al.us.

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