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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16th Annual Literary Competition - Short Fiction and Poetry

8th Annual Youth Literary Competition – Short Fiction and Poetry

*Awards Announced*

ROCK HILL, SC – The Arts Council of York County presented the awards for the 16th Annual Literary Competition and the 8th Annual Youth Literary Competition at a free, public reception honoring the awards recipients and participants, and celebrating National Family Literacy Month and National Novel Writing Month at the Center for the Arts, 121 E. Main St., Rock Hill, SC on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

The Annual Literary Competitions include two categories - short story and poetry. Authors were eligible to enter both the short story and the poetry competitions, and entries were eligible to win an award in each category. Independent jurors were: members of the Perihelion Book Club; Lucille Harper; and Winthrop University faculty - Melissa McArthur Gilbert - Adjunct Faculty, Instructor of English Mary Martin, and Assistant Professor Ephraim Scott Sommers.

**16th Annual Literary Competition Awards**

Poetry

**1st Place** – “A Part of the Clouds” by Brittney Blaskowitz Prichard, Charlotte, NC

**2nd Place** – “For Years” by Katie Ellen Bowers, Heath Springs, SC

**3rd Place** – “Snake Stories” by Austin Lange, Rock Hill, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “The Coming of the Christmas Creep” by Joy Colter, Rock Hill, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “Traveling Oeuvre d’Art” by Debbie Hammond Lancaster, York, SC

Short Story

**1st Place** – “A Grandson’s Promise” by Treva Hammond, Rock Hill, SC

**2nd Place** – “Malas Tierras” by Hamilton Davis, York, SC

**3rd Place** – “Azalea Lane” by Peter Buttress, Lexington, SC

**Honorable Mention –** “A Gentlemanly Thing to Do” by Virginia S. Moe, Rock Hill, SC

**Honorable Mention –** “Reva” by Darryl Lewis, Rock Hill, SC

**8th Annual Youth Literary Competition Awards**

Poetry

**1st Place** – “The Lord’s Gaze” by Harlen Rembert, Fort Mill, SC

**2nd Place** – “Just Listen” by Youjaye Daniels, Rock Hill, SC

**3rd Place** – “I Am…” by Meg Bratton, York, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “Violin Girl” by Zoe Dubiski, Clover, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “Differences” by Malaysia Wilson, Rock Hill, SC

Short Story

**1st Place** – “Across the Page” by Helena Cirian, Tega Cay, SC

**2nd Place** – “One Match” by Lily Sutton, Fort Mill, SC

**3rd Place** – “Love in Color” by Emma Bennett, Fort Mill, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “The Fairy Queen” by Claire McNease, Fort Mill, SC

**Honorable Mention** – “Speaking Up” by Lilah Haen, Tega Cay, SC

Prizes and awards for the 16th Annual Literary Competition were underwritten by the Perihelion Club. The Perihelion Club, as a member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, began in 1898 as a literary and social club in Rock Hill. Over the years, club members, individually and as a club, have supported literacy in the community in a variety of ways - by conducting story hour at elementary schools, purchasing books for school libraries and funding a scholarship at Winthrop University. Today its members continue to share their love of literature with each other and to eagerly support literacy efforts in the community by raising funds at an auction held annually at its December meeting. The Perihelion Club is very proud to encourage writers of short stories and poetry by funding prizes for this competition.

The Arts Council is headquartered in downtown Rock Hill, a state-recognized cultural district. For more information on Arts Council events, contact the Arts Council of York County at (803)328-2787, by email at arts@yorkcountyarts.org, or visit our webpage at http://www.yorkcountyarts.org.

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