

GEMS Academy / SOKY Book Fest Young Science Writers

The first “GEMS Academy Young Science Writers” contest is a collaborative effort between SOKY Book Fest and GEMS Academy. An independent panel of judges reviewed the students’ books and chose winners in both 3rd-4th grade and 5th-6th grade categories. The two student winners will share an author’s table at the SOKY Book Fest Children’s Day on Friday, April 19, 2013, from 9:00 – 2:00 pm at WKU’s Carroll Knicely Conference Center. Book Fest and The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU have sponsored the purchase of 20 copies of each of the winners’ STEM Career book for the students to display, autograph and sell at Book Fest.

All 121 students at GEMS completed a book highlighting a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) career of interest. Most books were written with a target audience of elementary school-aged readers in mind. The goal was not only for GEMS students to research and explore a variety of STEM careers but also to experience the process of crafting an online book for publication as well as create a product to share information about STEM careers with other children. Each book was published through Lulu.com, an online book self-publishing website, printed in full-color with a saddle-stitched binding in soft cover format, complete with a unique ISBN number. These are “real” books!



3rd-4th Grade Category

Winning Book: “Herpetologists” by Hayden Isenberg (Cumberland Trace Elementary)

Honorable Mention:

“If You Want to be an Astronomer...” by Josh Rivas (Lost River Elementary – 4th)

“Aerospace Engineering” by Shruti Gautam (Cumberland Trace – 4th)

“Awesome Aerospace Engineers” by Maya Ganesh & Bray Jacobs (Cumberland Trace – 3rd)

5th-6th Grade Category

Winning Book: “What is a Genetic Counselor?” by Kamrin Green (Cumberland Trace – 5th)

Honorable Mention:

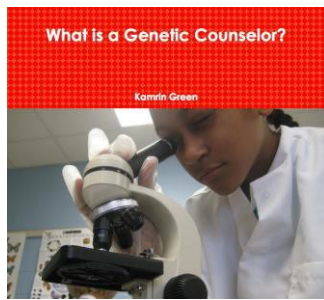
“Cosmetic Chemist” by Macy Kitchens (Lost River Elementary – 6th)

“Johnny, the Software Engineer” by Ethan Stephens (Lost River Elementary – 6th)

“So, You Want to be a Veterinarian” by Ella Duryea (Cumberland Trace Elementary – 5th)

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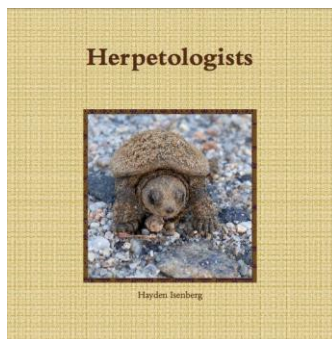
5th-6th Grade Category:



Winning Book: “What is a Genetic Counselor?” by Kamrin Green

Kamrin Green is a 10-year old 5th grade student at Cumberland Trace Elementary School who attends GEMS Academy every Wednesday. Kamrin is an exceptionally focused and conscientious student who sets high standards for her work. “What is a Genetic Counselor?” is her first published book and she is very proud of it. Kamrin did a great deal of research and included a wealth of information about genetic counseling in her book, which impressed the judging panel, as well as how she put herself into the role of a professional for her photographic illustrations. She loves to read, draw and write.

3rd-4th Grade Category:



Winning Book: “Herpetologists” by Hayden Isenberg

Hayden Isenberg is a 9-year old 4th grade student at Cumberland Trace Elementary School who attends GEMS Academy every Tuesday. This is his first published book. Hayden is a very creative student with a vivid imagination. The Book Fest judging panel felt that his book would be very appealing to a young reader. Some of Hayden’s hobbies include catching reptiles and frogs. He states that even though he is a young boy – he knows a lot!