

**IOWATER**

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
109 Trowbridge Hall  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1319

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[www.iowater.net](http://www.iowater.net)

**IOWATER**

presents the

2008 River of Words<sup>®</sup>

IOWA

Environmental  
Poetry & Art Exhibit



works created by K-12 students in Iowa

August 30 – September 21, 2008  
The Carnegie Library Room  
of the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

# River of Words®

Every year, River of Words® conducts an international environmental poetry and art competition for youth aged 5 to 19 in grades K-12, in affiliation with The Library of Congress Center for the Book. This free contest is designed to help youth explore the natural and cultural history of the place they live, and to express what they discover through poetry and art. Iowa entries not chosen as finalists or grand prize winners in the international contest are returned to IOWATER, where they are judged in a statewide IOWA River of Words® Environmental Poetry and Art competition.

The IOWATER Volunteer Water Monitoring Program of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources coordinates the IOWA River of Words® Environmental Poetry and Art competition. This year, over 350 students from Iowa entered the contest, either through their schools, community art centers, local libraries, or on their own. Because of the large number of quality Iowa entries, we accepted the generous offer of the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art to host a juried River of Words® IOWA Environmental Poetry and Art Exhibit. Fifty-one works of poetry and art were selected to be included in this exhibit.

We hope you enjoy these efforts by Iowa's youth to explore and understand our environment, and to express their experiences through art and poetry.



## SPECIAL AWARDS

1.



### NATIONAL FINALIST

Lupita Delgado  
age 11  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Foxy*

*Foxy* was displayed at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. in the 2008 River of Words® Exhibit and the original artwork is now in the permanent collection of River of Words® in Berkeley, CA.

2.

### Three-time IOWA WINNER

Scott Skophammer  
age 16  
Ft. Dodge, Iowa

2006 – *Freedom...Cool, Clean Water*

2007 – *Night Water Flight*

2008 – *Crystal Clear Water*

3.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Outstanding Environmental Poetry  
and Art Program for Youth in the  
Sioux City area*



**IOWA WINNER  
Grades K-3 Art**

Addeline Kelley  
age 7  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Fishing for Dinner*

**IOWA WINNER  
Grades K-3 Poetry**

Tristan Paton  
age 5½  
Fairfield, Iowa  
*Iowa Pond*

Iowa Pond

I look at nature.  
Watch birds fly and frogs splash.  
Days and nights, dawns and dusks.  
It is always changing.  
White and hard in winter.  
Rocks just click and skid on ice.  
Muddy and dark in summer.  
Rocks will splash and ka-thump!  
Tracks and sounds all winter.  
Animals and insects all summer.  
Our pond is nature.  
It is always changing a little.  
I'm glad we have it near us  
all year long.

**EXHIBITORS  
Grades K-3**

**Poetry**  
Jade Cole  
age 8  
Clearfield Elementary School  
Clearfield, Iowa  
*The Frog*

Emily Eggert  
age 8  
Clearfield Elementary School  
Clearfield, Iowa  
*Water*

Alexis Hagen  
age 8  
Durant Elementary School  
Durant, Iowa  
*Water Oh Water*

Sarah Leopold  
age 5  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*My Turtle*

GRADES K-3

Milagros Lopez  
age 8  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Beaver Family*

**Art**  
Madeline Bertram  
age 8  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Swimming Upstream*

Kim Buchanan  
age 8  
Clearfield Elementary School  
Clearfield, Iowa  
*The Great Waterfall*

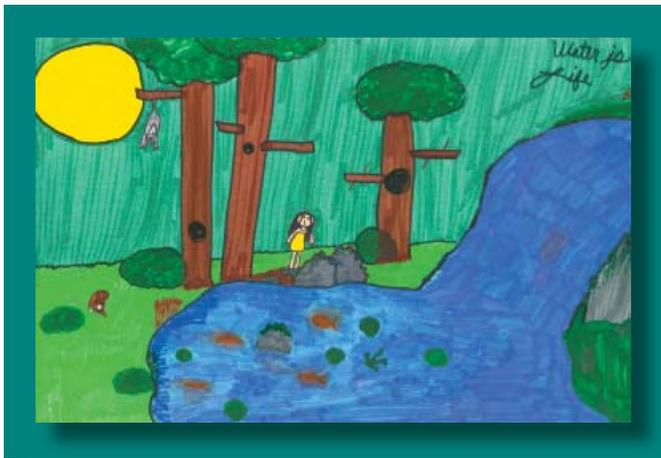
Kim Buchanan  
age 8  
Clearfield Elementary School  
Clearfield, Iowa  
*A Sunny Day at the Beach*

Marco Delgado  
age 8  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Rabbit*

Sarah Glade  
age 7  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Sailing at Sunset*

Reis Green  
age 8  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Home of the Brave*

Lauren Pinchuk  
age 8  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Stream thru Corn Fields*



**IOWA WINNER  
Grades 4-6 Art**

Lucy Besch  
age 12  
Manson Northwest  
Webster School  
Barnum, Iowa  
*Water is Life*

**EXHIBITORS  
Grades 4-6**

**Poetry**  
Kayla Baker  
age 10  
Cedar Falls, Iowa  
*Beauty River*

McKinley BarbouRoske  
age 9  
Iowa City, Iowa  
*The River*

Noelle Martin  
age 10  
Solon, Iowa  
*I'm Lucky to Live Here*

Jacqueline Pose  
age 9  
Sacred Heart School  
West Des Moines, Iowa  
*The Heron*

**Art**  
Megan Bradford  
age 10  
Cedar Falls, Iowa  
*The Flower Pot*

Emily Freeland  
age 11  
Union Middle School  
Dysart, Iowa  
*Dusk*

Hannah Harms  
age 12  
Waverly, Iowa  
*The Calm through the Storm*

Sydney Knight  
age 10  
East Elementary School  
Cambridge, Iowa  
*The Mile Long Bridge*

Steven Le  
age 9  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Coyote in the Snow*

Tyra Le  
age 11  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Under the River*

Haley McClure  
age 11  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*A Dip at the Water Hole*

Shannon Mulligan  
age 10  
Dubuque, Iowa  
*One Drop of Water*

Callie Powell  
age 9  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Woo-Woo?*

Walker Roberts  
age 12  
Manson Northwest Webster School  
Barnum, Iowa  
*Flipping for Water*

**GRADES**

4-6

**My Friend, the River**

My friend, the River,  
Beckoning, then racing  
Ahead, and tripping over  
Stones, its bubbly laughter  
Floating down to me, while I  
Chase her, running, acting like  
A fool, stumbling, falling, she  
Catches me. We continue,  
Playing an endless game of  
Hide-and-go-seek, we run  
As one person, united in a  
World, talking, laughing, joking,  
In a world where there are different  
Ways, where twisting turning rivers are  
Endless, and they never have to stop,  
Never. But taking a break is such a  
Wonderful thought. I lie down,  
And I sleep by my friend, the River.

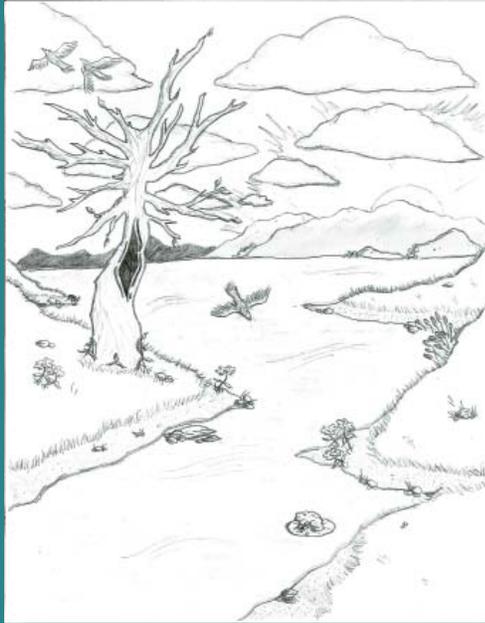
**Jamaica**

When I lived in Jamaica  
The ocean there was wavy like my mom's hair.  
And I held a seashell to my ear.

**IOWA WINNERS  
Grades 4-6 Poetry**

Shuda Jarboe  
age 11  
Urbandale, Iowa  
*My Friend, the River*

Darian Lisle  
age 10  
Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
*Jamaica*



**IOWA WINNER  
Grades 7-9 Art**

Cory Sullivan  
age 14  
Waverly, Iowa  
*A Simple Beginning*

**IOWA WINNER  
Grades 7-9 Poetry**

Lorissa Kaye Mauch  
age 13  
Anthon-Oto Maple Valley  
Middle School  
Anthon-Oto, Iowa  
*Words Flow Like a River*

GRADES 7-9

**EXHIBITORS  
Grades 7-9**

**Poetry**

Olivia Queathem  
age 13  
Grinnell, Iowa  
*Iowa in a nutshell*

Olivia Queathem  
age 13  
Grinnell, Iowa  
*RiverRace*

Hannah Raney  
age 12  
Howar Jr. High School  
Centerville, Iowa  
*Beautiful Lakes*

Shelby Royer  
age 13  
Howar Jr. High School  
Centerville, Iowa  
*A Flowing Idea*

**Art**

Shawna Behrens  
age 14  
Hudson, Iowa  
*Flowing Forever and All  
Eternity*

Samantha Brus  
age 15  
Dubuque, Iowa  
*Quiet Prairie*

Alecia Magner  
age 14  
AEA 267 Bremwood  
Campus School  
Waverly, Iowa  
*The Rain Comes Down*

Words Flow Like a River

rivers flow  
 words flow  
 they all mix in  
 and move smoothly  
 up and down and  
 all around  
 side to side and back  
 you write lots  
 of things and  
 let them flow  
 and soon enough  
 they make sense  
 and a river flows  
 in all directions  
 and soon comes  
 to a stop to a  
 certain point when it's inanimate  
 and then you start  
 over and if it doesn't  
 make sense you just  
 think it through  
 and go again

# Rainy Day Lake

Soaring down from the ocean clouds a mallard wets its wings.  
The skin slowly ripples as a catfish wades below.  
Emerging from the pool of darkness the bullfrog sits content.  
A cricket moves the bow against the string and hesitates.  
Gently bowing to the silent expanse the willow waits.  
A clap of thunder and a sea of water fills the lake.

**IOWA WINNER**  
**Grades 10-12 Poetry**

Jeralyn Westercamp  
age 16  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
*Rainy Day Lake*

**EXHIBITORS**  
**Grades 10-12**

**Poetry**  
Olivia Lukes  
age 15  
Amana, Iowa  
*Storm*

Scott Skophammer  
age 16  
Ft. Dodge, Iowa  
*Life Force*

GRADES  
10-12



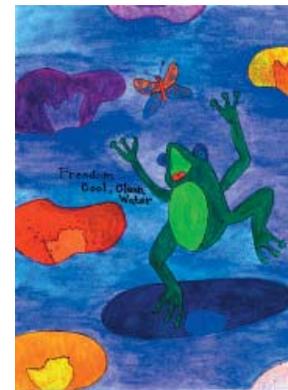
2008 – *Crystal Clear Water*

**Three-time IOWA WINNER**  
**Grades 10-12 Art**

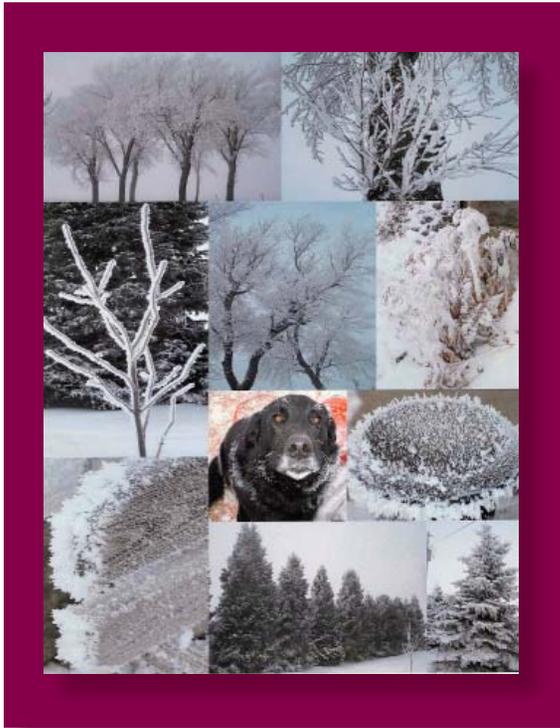
Scott Skophammer  
age 16  
Ft. Dodge, Iowa



2007 – *Night Water Flight*



2006 – *Freedom...Cool, Clean Water*



**IOWA WINNER**  
**Photography**

Rebecca White  
age 12  
Peterson, Iowa  
*Frosty February*

PHOTO-  
GRAPHY

**EXHIBITORS**  
**Photography**

Emily Bierman  
age 8  
Ekstrand Elementary School  
De Witt, Iowa  
*Untitled*

Kayla Leming  
age 10  
Ekstrand Elementary School  
De Witt, Iowa  
*Mississippi Magic*

Kayla Leming  
age 10  
Ekstrand Elementary School  
De Witt, Iowa  
*Mississippi Mallards*

Megan Lukas  
age 9  
Amana, Iowa  
*Millrace*

Megan Lukas  
age 9  
Amana, Iowa  
*Morning Mist*

July

for the 2008 River of Words®  
**IOWA Environmental Poetry & Art Exhibit**

**POETRY**

**Holly Carver**

**Director, University of Iowa Press**

As an editor and publisher at the University of Texas Press and, since 1985, at the University of Iowa Press, Holly has edited many books of poetry, including the winners of the Iowa Poetry Prize.

**ART**

**Pat Lohmann**

**Iowa Coordinator, River of Words®**

Pat received an MFA in painting from the University of Iowa School of Art and Art History. She is an artist and publication designer for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

To our Sponsors,

The Cedar Rapids Museum of Art ([www.crma.org](http://www.crma.org))

University of Iowa Press ([www.uiowapress.org](http://www.uiowapress.org))

Blick Art Materials, Iowa City ([www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com))

Hy-Vee Food Store – Waterfront Drive, Iowa City

Thank you for supporting Iowa's youth,  
our environment, and poetry & art.

## Get involved for CLEAN WATER...

Volunteer Programs available through the  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

IOWATER, Iowa's volunteer water quality monitoring program, provides Iowans an opportunity to monitor water resources in their own communities. Volunteers are provided with training and monitoring equipment, and can then monitor wherever and whenever they choose. The program brings people closer to the landscapes that surround them and encourages them to develop a sense of place within their own watersheds. This tie between ourselves and the water resources that give us life will lead to the understanding, respect, and protection of Iowa's water bodies long into the future. Visit [www.iowater.net](http://www.iowater.net) for more information.

Project AWARE (A Watershed Awareness River Expedition), is the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' annual weeklong, volunteer river cleanup and watershed awareness event. Hundreds of Iowans spend anywhere from a day to an entire week paddling and hauling trash from Iowa's waterways while learning about and enjoying our water resources from the seat of a canoe. Through hands-on experience, water quality monitoring, and organized on-the-river and evening educational opportunities, volunteers not only learn about water quality, wildlife, and recycling, they experience them firsthand. Project AWARE nurtures a personal interest in Iowa's natural resources and proves that individual actions can lead to remarkable results. Visit [www.iowaprojectaware.com](http://www.iowaprojectaware.com) for more information.

For more information

*about River of Words®  
or to enter the 2009 competition,  
please visit [www.iowater.net](http://www.iowater.net)  
and click on the River of Words® logo.*