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Pass Line: AMBASSADOR/DCM, MANAGEMENT OFFICER AND COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICE COORDINATORS
Subject: Foreign Service Youth Foundation 2020 Award Winners

KEY POINTS:

- This message announces the 2020 winners of the annual scholarships and contests sponsored by the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF).
- Due to the ongoing pandemic, FSYF will not host its annual award ceremony.
- This year's FSYF award winners will be honored via the Family Liaison Office (FLO) website, newsletter, and social media platforms and not at an in-person award ceremony.

1. Summary: The Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) is pleased to announce its award winners for 2020. Due to the ongoing pandemic, FSYF will not be hosting its annual award ceremony. FSYF will honor the awardees via the Family Liaison Office (FLO) website, newsletter, and social media platforms. FSYF commends the hard work and creativity of the 199 young community members who participated this year, and thanks FLO, the Overseas Briefing Center (OBC), contest judges, and contest award donors for their support of this program.

2. About FSYF: Since 1989, FSYF has helped Foreign Service youth embrace the adventure of an internationally mobile childhood by encouraging resilience and fostering camaraderie. Global programs include webinars on Third Culture Kid issues, a Foreign Service youth-written newsletter, annual contests, and scholarships for college-bound seniors. D.C.-area events in previous years have included re-entry seminars for high school and middle school students, a college admissions workshop, family meet-up events, and a fall welcome back picnic. For more info, visit <https://www.fsyf.org/>.

3. **FSYF Academic Merit Awards:** The \$2,000 first place award and the \$1,000 second place award go to high-achieving high school seniors or gap year students. The winners were selected from 25 applicants.

1st Place: Adrian Hall (Rome)
2nd Place: Mia Callahan (Seoul)

4. **FSYF Community Service Awards:** The \$2000 first place award, \$1500 second place award, and \$500 third place awards recognize Foreign Service youth who demonstrate outstanding volunteer efforts in service to their community or to their peers. They were selected from seven entrants. The prizes are donated by Clements Worldwide Insurance.

1st Place: Havana Chapman-Edwards (Frankfurt)
2nd Place: Natalya Flake (Brasilia)
3rd Place: Kevin Brown (D.C. area)

5. **FSYF Essay Awards:** Eight awards ranging from \$150 to \$800 are given for essays responding to the following prompt: "Identify an issue that you would like to learn more about as a member of a U.S. Foreign Service family living in (name of country; the U.S. qualifies, too). Explain why this issue is important to you, how you will learn more about it, and what you would do with this information. Consider how the Foreign Service lifestyle has stimulated your interest and your ability to understand it." The winners were selected from 46 entrants. The awards are made possible by Jim McGrath, Associate Broker, ReMax Premier.

Middle School

1st Place: Henrick Deininger (Kenya)
2nd Place: Aiden Heumphreus (Bogotá)
3rd Place: Leena Wahaj (Belgrade)

High School

1st Place: Nicolas Hall (Rome)
2nd Place: Alexander Neisuler (Tel Aviv)
3rd Place: Emily Allen (Frankfurt)

6. **FSYF Art Awards:** Eleven awards ranging from \$100 to \$500 are presented to artists utilizing any flat medium to illustrate the theme "My Life, My World, My Dreams." The awards are made possible by the State Department Federal Credit Union. They were selected from 62 entrants.

5-8 Age Group

1st Place (tie): Amaranta Gil-Gaviria (D.C. area)
1st Place (tie): Elizabeth Graeme (Copenhagen)
2nd Place: Hannah Evans (Ankara)

9-12 Age Group

1st Place: Lydia Bitner (Copenhagen)
2nd Place: Kai Geisinger (D.C. area)
3rd Place: Kinsey Greninger (Hermosillo)

13-18 Age Group

1st Place: Benjamin Leese (D.C. area)
 2nd Place: Sophie Nave (D.C. area)
 3rd Place: Madeleine Heffern (Paris)

7. OBC KidVid Awards: The OBC, a division of the Foreign Service Institute Transition Center, and FSYP are the co-sponsors of this annual contest. The 2020 contest was remarkable in many ways. Due to COVID-19, OBC revised the standard guidelines to ask Foreign Service youth to capture what life is like coping with a worldwide pandemic. In response, OBC received an unprecedented 40 entries produced by 59 youth from every region of the world. Below are the 17 top winners. An additional 35 Honorable Mentions are listed in 20 State 62352 dated July 2, 2020 (Reftel). OBC coordinates the contest, and FSYP provides the prize money through a donation from Meghan Pachas of MAP Property Solutions, LLC. Prizes range from \$50 to \$300. The videos become a permanent addition to the OBC's audiovisual collection and are accessible via the Department of State Intranet, Post Info to Go-External (<https://fsitraining.state.gov/TC/7608>), and the members' section of the FSYP website (<https://www.fsyf.org/>).

10-12 Age Group

1st Place (tie): Sebastian Perlaza (Budapest)
 1st Place (tie): Joseph and Cecilia Tolsma (Wuhan)
 2nd Place (tie): Luke Shen (Taipei)
 2nd Place (tie): Madelyn and Amelia Cragun (Sydney)
 3rd Place (tie): Sophie Reed (Lima)
 3rd Place (tie): Naomi Maertz (Muscat)

13-14 Age Group

1st Place: Jackson and Emerson Shorey (Muscat)
 2nd Place: Jakob Troger (Hanoi)
 3rd Place (tie): Hadley Pound (Bratislava)
 3rd Place (tie): William Luke Johnson (Bern)
 3rd Place (tie): Sam, Ruth, and Georgia Dove (Ciudad Juarez)

15-18 Age Group

1st Place: Mikayla Connors (Tokyo)
 2nd Place: Ella Beschta Westfall (New Delhi)
 3rd Place (tie): Zoe Gainer (Perth)
 3rd Place (tie): Maxim Sarciaux (Kyiv)
 3rd Place (tie): Casey Romero (Kathmandu)
 3rd Place (tie): Joshua, Claire, and Andrew Hendriksen (La Paz)

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