

Poetry Contest for South Carolina Students

In conjunction with this year's May Hill Arbutnot Honor Lecture, the South Carolina State Library held a "Young Minds Dreaming" poetry contest. More than 600 South Carolina students, grades 3–12, submitted original poems on the topic of a person, place, or experience that made an impression on the student's life.

"The State Library was thrilled at the response to the poetry contest," said Denise Lyons, deputy director of the South Carolina State Library. "It became clear that there is both interest and enthusiasm by many at all levels to celebrate poetry in a significant way across the state. . . . Our hope is that we will be able to continue the Young Minds Dreaming contest in some way even after the Arbutnot events have ended."

Nine winners, chosen by a panel of judges, were invited to meet Jacqueline Woodson and recite their work in a closed ceremony held on the day of the Arbutnot Lecture. &



Woodson and winners of the "Young Minds Dreaming" poetry contest

CONTEST WINNERS

Elementary (grades 3–5)

1st Place

Sonia Baxter, 3rd grade: "The Beach"

2nd Place

Catie Coats, 5th grade: "My Grandma's Death"

3rd Place

Michaela Grindstaff, 5th grade: "Up Main Street"

Middle (grades 6–8)

1st Place

Nada Rahal, 6th grade: "Beauty"

2nd Place

Charlotte Hughes, 8th grade: "The Cherry Blossom City"

3rd Place

Michaela Lanier, 7th grade: "Destructional Peace"

High (grades 9–12)

1st Place

Skye Robertson, 12th grade: "Dreams"

2nd Place

Gillian Moses, 9th grade: "Flight"

3rd Place

April Williams, 11th grade: "Dreaming of Innocence"