

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
Office of Catholic Education and Formation

2022 RESPECT LIFE CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST RESULTS

Since 1979, the Respect Life Apostolate has partnered with the Office of Education & Formation to sponsor an annual writing competition for eighth grade students in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Students reflect, pray, research, and write about the Gospel of Life and the virtue of chastity for scholarships and other awards.

In 2022, hundreds of eighth graders from 45 Catholic schools, PSR programs, and home school programs submitted entries. Of these, 129 students earned the ranking of “parish/school finalist” and were sent into the Respect Life Apostolate for further judging. At the April 21 awards dinner, the 25 “Archdiocesan finalists” were honored for their accomplishments. Ten students were also awarded a Catholic youth event or high school scholarship.

Scholarship Winners

- Bishop Edward J. O'Donnell Scholarship: **Henry Reardon** (St. Clement of Rome Parish & School) will be attending De Smet Jesuit High School
- Mary Forrestal Hennessey Scholarship: **George Volmert** (St. Francis Borgia Parish School of Religion) will be attending St. Francis Borgia Regional High School
- Mr. and Mrs. George Kletzker Scholarship: **Isaac Aguayo** (St. Frances Cabrini Academy/St. Cecilia Parish) will be attending St. Louis University High School
- Knights of Columbus Missouri State Council Scholarship: **Isabella Heit** (Holy Infant Parish & School), will be attending St. Joseph Academy
- Respect Life Apostolate Scholarship: **Sera Juliet Siemer** (The St. Austin School/Oratory of Ss. Gregory & Augustine) will be attending Cor Jesu Academy

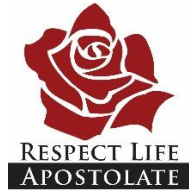
Generation Life Pilgrimage/Steubenville Youth Conference Winners

- **Veronica Griesbauer** (St. Gianna Parish) will be attending the Griesbauer Home School
- **Maura Niebrugge** (St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish) will be attending Seton Home Study School
- **Chidube Nwankwo** (Holy Infant Parish & School) will be attending St. Louis University High School
- **Josie O'Brien** (St. Gerard Majella Parish & School), will be attending Cor Jesu Academy
- **John Schultz** (St. Paul Parish & School [St. Paul]), will be attending St. Dominic High School

Archdiocesan Finalists

1. Isaac Aguayo, St. Frances Cabrini School, St. Cecilia Parish
2. Sienna Barnidge, The St. Austin School, St. Mary Magdalen Parish
3. Landon Beaman, St. Francis Borgia Parish & School
4. Lola Bishara, Sts. Joachim & Ann Parish & School
5. Benji Boss, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish & School
6. Gwendolyn Briz, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish & School
7. Ayden Buhr, Sacred Heart Parish & School (Troy)
8. Brooke Burbach, Seton Regional Catholic School, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
9. Jonah Copley, Mary Queen of Peace Parish & School

(continued on the next page)



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
Office of Catholic Education and Formation

Archdiocesan Finalists (continued)

10. Veronica Griesbauer, Griesbauer Home School, St. Gianna Parish
11. Isabella Heit, Holy Infant Parish & School
12. Patrick Hopfinger, Holy Cross Academy, St. John Paul II Parish
13. Lucy McKinney, St. Vincent Junior/Senior High School, St. Vincent de Paul Parish (Perryville)
14. Maura Niebrugge, Seton Home Study School, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish
15. Chidube Nwankwo, Holy Infant Parish & School
16. GraceAnne Paisley, Immaculate Conception Parish & School (Dardenne Prairie)
17. Josephine O'Brien, St. Gerard Majella Parish & School
18. Henry Reardon, St. Clement of Rome Parish & School
19. Madeleine Rodrigues, Immaculate Conception Parish & School (Union)
20. John Schultz, St. Paul Parish & School (St. Paul)
21. Sera Juliet Siemer, The St. Austin School, Oratory of Sts. Gregory & Augustine
22. Mary Stirton, St. John Paul II Preparatory, St. Mary's Parish
23. Hailey Struckhoff, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish & School
24. Peter Vlahutin, Penniel Academy of Catholic Education, St. Peter Parish (St. Charles)
25. George Volmert, St. Francis Borgia Parish School of Religion

The 10 entries of the high school and Catholic youth event scholarship winners will be posted at the website below. The winners will also be invited and receive further recognition at the 46th Respect Life Convention on October 15.

Next year's writing contest will open in early 2023. For more information, please contact 314.792.7559, maryvarni@archstl.org or visit online www.archstl.org/respect-life-apostolate/programs/education/eighth-grade-creative-writing-contest

About the Respect Life Apostolate

The Respect Life Apostolate of the Archdiocese of St. Louis promotes the Catholic Church's teachings on respect for and legal protection of every human life from conception to natural death. To learn more, please contact 314.792.7555 or prolife@archstl.org or visit online at www.STLRespectLife.org.