

2025 SoMLA Young Authors' Contest Winners						
Elementary (Grades 2-5)						
<u>Grade Category</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Student First Name</u>	<u>Student Last Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>School/City</u>	<u>SoMLA Chapter</u>
Grade 1 Poetry	1	Arya	Gurung	Wintery Evening	Hickory Elementary School Bel Air, MD	Harford
	2	Remi	Breen	A Princesses' Summer Voyage	Jeffers Hill Elementary Columbia, MD	Howard
Grade 1 SS	1	Adelaide	Craig	Sleigh Ride	Rising Sun Elementary Rising Sun, MD	Cecil
	2	Leah	Johnson	The Portal Potty	Benfield Elementary Saverna Park, MD	Anne Arundel
Grade 2 Poetry	1	Jiya	Kothari	Winter	Triadelphia Ridge Elementary Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Serena	Miller	Goodbye Halloween, Hello Thanksgiving	Broadneck Elementary Arnold, MD	Anne Arundel
Grade 2 SS	1	Mara	Eber	The Girl in Red	Broadneck Elementary Arnold, MD	Anne Arundel
	2	Emma	Brayman	Be True to You!	Riverside Elementary Joppa, MD	Harford
Grade 3 Poetry	1	Siraj	Yasir	Secret of My Joy	North Salisbury Elementary Salisbury, MD	Eastern Shore
	2	Abdulazeem	Owokoniran	My Father, My Hero	Cora L. Rise Elementary Landover, MD	Prince George's
Grade 3 SS	1	Asher	Ennis	A Hero of World War II	Odenton Elementary Odenton, MD	Anne Arundel
	2	Zoe	Lane	My Forever Family	Waterloo Elementary School Columbia, MD	Howard
Grade 4 Poetry	1	Rishika	Ketha	Mother Nature's Cry	Fulton Elementary School Fulton, MD	Howard

	2	Cheyenne	Pouska	Personal Mantra	Rising Sun Elementary Rising Sun, MD	Cecil
Grade 4 SS	1	Iracema	Resendiz	War Horse	Chesapeake City Elementary Chesapeake City, MD	Cecil
	2	Ted	Murphy	Squirrel Encounter	Jones Elementary Severna Park, MD	Anne Arundel
Grade 5 Poetry	1	Karthik	Balasubramania	In the Shadows of Night	Veterans Elementary School Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Charlize	Damouni	Through the Eyes of a Soldier	Worcester Preparatory School Berlin, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 5 SS	1	Scarlett	Spak	Freedom	Bayard Rustin Elementary Rockville, MD	Montgomery
	2	Angie	King	The Forest's Light	Dayton Oaks Elementary Dayton, MD	Howard
<u>Secondary (6-12)</u>						
Grade 6 Poetry	1	Eleanor	Wagner	Sometimes	Windsor Knolls Middle Mt. Airy, MD	Frederick
	2	Chelsea	Reed	So Much Left to Say	Patterson Mill Middle Bel Air, MD	Harford
Grade 6 SS	1	Nora	Tate	The Solace of Night	Matapeake Middle Stevensville, MD	Upper Shore
	2	Brooks	Wytko	Finding Joy	Hammond Middle Laurel, MD	Howard
Grade 7 Poetry	1	Ayla	Castro	Wings of Freedom	Middletown Middle Boonsboro, MD	Frederick
	2	Sunny	Parepalli	Grand Piano	Clarksville Middle Clarksville, MD	Howard
Grade 7 SS	1	Charlotte	Wilhelm	Coffee	Fallston Middle Fallston, MD	Harford
	2	Sage	Knazik	Did You Enjoy the Show	Mount View Middle Marriottsville, MD	Howard

Grade 8 Poetry	1	Aadya	Rai	The Beauty of the Broken	Clarksville Middle Clarksville, MD	Howard
	2	Aya	Musleh	Two Minutes Late	Oakdale Middle Frederick, MD	Frederick
Grade 8 SS	1	Dylani	Du	The Glass that Molds My Shadows	Burleigh Manor Middle Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Elias	Baldrige	The Nightmare from Nature's Nook	Stephen Decatur Middle Berlin, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 9 Poetry	1	Kirsten	Braddy	Memoir	Centennial High Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Lily	Copeland	Worlds and Pages Between Us	Stephen Decatur High Berlin, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 9 SS	1	Angela	Quan	The Price of Silence	James M. Bennett High Salisbury, MD	Eastern Shore
	2	Sukaina	Hussain	The Last Wishsmith	Centennial High Ellicott City, MD	Howard
Grade 10 Poetry	1	Rihana	Yami	Totality	River Hill High Highland, MD	Howard
	2	Breanna	McCray	Olympus in My Living Room	Stephen Decatur High Berlin, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 10 SS	1	Seryna	Weaver	The Girl in the Backseat	Snow Hill High Snow Hill, MD	Eastern Shore
	2	Keira	Conley	The Fool in Her Wedding Gown	Tuscarora High Adamstown, MD	Frederick
Grade 11 Poetry	1	Audrey	Whitehair	Misinterpreted Luck	Queen Anne's County High Centreville, MD	Upper Shore
	2	Niki	Holloway	What if it was Adam	Frederick High Frederick, MD	Frederick
Grade 11 SS	1	Ava	Nelson	Barbie	Oakdale High School Ijamsville, MD	Frederick

	2	Savannah	Wertz	The Way	Snow Hill High Snow Hill, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 12 Poetry	1	Yehji	Hwang	Elegy	Centennial High Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Ziann	Franklin	Unsung	Pocomoke High Pocomoke City, MD	Eastern Shore
Grade 12 SS	1	Bernhardt	Callista	Tormented	Centennial High Ellicott City, MD	Howard
	2	Daniel	LeCates	A Starving Artist	The Salisbury School Salisbury, MD	Eastern Shore