

Coventry student grabs second place in annual writing contest

Believable and heartbreaking, twists in the writing, and real tension, are just some of the words *New York Times* best selling author Ann Hood used to describe the works of this year's top three winners in the Kate DeCubellis Memorial Foundation's 9th annual writing contest.

Hood, whose novel, "The Knitting Circle," is currently being made into a movie by actress Katherine Heigl, took

time out of her hectic schedule to judge the contest.

"It is a tremendous honor that such an accomplished and acclaimed writer is willing to take time to give back to her community and support other aspiring writers, while at the same time raising awareness about the KDMF and its efforts," said Executive Director John DeCubellis.

"After our daughter Katie died at the

hands of a drunken driver, we wanted to find a way to carry on her legacy and keep her spirit alive," said Meg DeCubellis. "As the years progressed we were fortunate enough to receive an outpouring of support and the writing contest is one way for us to give back to others and also raise awareness on important topics."

The second place award went to

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Emily Fisher of Coventry (middle) poses with John and Meg DeCubellis after earning second place in their annual writing contest, established in memory of their daughter Katie, who was killed by a drunk driver.

Submitted Photo

Contest names Coventry's Fisher

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Emily Fisher of Coventry, Hood had this to say about her work titled "Marshmallow Treats:"

"Emily created a wonderful sibling relationship in her submission. Both children come across as real people and their motives and desires are clear and true. The ending forces the older brother to make a choice and the twist that Emily used added to my satisfaction about the resolution."

For the past nine years KDMF has awarded money and prizes to students who placed in the annual writing contest. For the 2012 contest the Foundation has a timely topic in which students are asked to create a situation or relate an event that demonstrates how an economic crisis impacts families, causes increased social pressure and/or leads to poor decision making.

A ceremony was held Monday, May 7th at the Warwick Mall to announce this year's winners. Television reporter/

WPRO radio anchor and children's book author Laura Clarizio emceed the event.

The KDMF presented monetary awards to the winners. Additionally, professionally created posters with the winners' names and writing entries remained on display at the mall during the week following the ceremony. The winners also received an autographed copy of one of Ann Hood's books. For more information about the contest and annual scholarships that the KDMF awards visit the Foundation's website at www.kdmf.org.