

DAVIDSON COUNTY FIFTH-GRADERS SHARE AWARD-WINNING VIEWS ON RESPECT

Nashville, Tennessee – Three Davidson County fifth-graders learned December 13, 2013 that showing respect really does pay off.

At a presentation held in the Davidson County Courthouse, three Davidson County students were recognized by Nashville attorney Jenney Keaty of Kinnard, Clayton and Beveridge for their winning entries in a contest that asked students for their definition of respect.

The first-place winner, Brendan Callis from St. Edward School received \$1,000 for his school, \$1,000 for the charity of his choice (St. Jude Children’s Hospital) and \$100 for himself.

The winners were announced at the presentation, which was the culmination of Kinnard, Clayton & Beveridge’s law firm’s fifth RESPECT Contest, which asked Davidson County fifth-graders to answer two questions: What is respect? and Why is respect important? Drawings also accompanied the students’ answers.

The contest was put into motion by the law firm after discussions about ways to get students talking about what being respectful means to them. “As adults, we often witness the unfortunate loss of dignity that can stem from disrespectful behavior in our professional lives and in our personal lives. We strongly believed that this contest would be an interesting way to encourage students to think about the impact that respect can have within their own lives,” Randy Kinnard said. “We couldn’t have been more pleased with the result – a collection of extremely creative entries that thoughtfully express the many different meanings of respect.”

The law firm received and evaluated 1,157 submissions before deciding the outcome of the contest. Three students representing three different schools were selected as the winners:

- First Place: Brendan Callis, St. Edward School
- Second Place: Michael Williams, Two Rivers Middle School
- Third Place: Daysia Y. Bryant, Meigs Middle School

Michael Williams, the second-place winner, received \$500 for St. Edward School, \$500 for his charity of choice (Susan G. Komen Foundation) and \$100 for himself. Daysia Y. Bryant, who was chosen as the third-place winner in the contest, received \$350 for Two Rivers Middle School, \$350 for her chosen charity (Locks of Love) and \$100 for herself.

Representatives from the chosen charities were on hand to accept the donations.