

NEWS RELEASE



FOR RELEASE – THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2011

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Media are encouraged to attend Friday's luncheon. Good photo opportunity! A photo would be available following the luncheon for media who cannot attend.

Richland Newhope salutes coloring contest winners

(Mansfield, OH) - Fifteen Richland County students have been selected as winners of the 18th Annual Richland County Third Grade Coloring Contest. The event is sponsored by Richland Newhope as part of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March. This year's statewide theme is "Together."

All Richland County schools with third grade classes were invited to participate in the contest. Participants this year were asked to color a picture featuring three children, one of whom uses a wheelchair. The picture contained the message, "In one way or another, everyone is a little bit different. When we work and play together, it makes life better." Newhope received 562 entries from 15 schools. One winner was chosen from each school. Tim Ludwig, an artist and employee at Element of Art Studio/Gallery, helped select this year's winners. It marked the first time that an individual who receives services from Richland Newhope assisted with judging the contest.

The winners, their parents, teacher, and principal are invited to a pizza party at 11:00 a.m. on Fri., March 4 at Newhope's Early Childhood Center, 255 Hedges Street. The luncheon will feature Miss Ohio 2010 Becky Minger. The children will also have an opportunity to participate in simulated disability exercises.

This year's coloring contest winners are: Parker Lewis, Auburn Elementary; Alysia Miller, Bellville Elementary; Risa Koizumi, Central Elementary; Devon Stevens, Crestview Elementary; Rowan Pruettmiller, Discovery School; Emma Lybarger, Dowds Elementary; Noah Hill, Madison South Elementary; Wyatt Stanfield, Mifflin Elementary; Anna Lozier, Newman Elementary; Clover France, Prospect Elementary; Taylor Rall, Sacred Heart Elementary; Cy Ison, Sherman Elementary; Olivia Gatchall, St. Peter's Elementary; Saylor VanAuker, Stingel Intermediate; and Sebastian Jones, Woodland Elementary.

Each of the winners will receive a certificate, pen, pencil, two coloring books and crayons, memo board, ruler, a bookmark with their name in Braille, a magnifier, and a button designed by a Newhope individual. The winners in attendance will also have their photo taken with Miss Ohio. In addition, teachers will receive a resource guide about disabilities and how to incorporate lessons into class curriculum. Each school will also receive an awareness poster.

In 2010, Richland Newhope (Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities) supported more than 1,850 individuals through early intervention, preschool, adult, residential, therapy, transportation, and other family support programs.

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