MARY JO NETTESHEIM LITERARY COMPETITION 2017

LITERARY AND ILLUSTRATOR WINNERS
GRADE 3 WINNERS

1. Popcorn Saves the Movie Theater
   By Lenna Karapetian

2. The Spooky Attic
   By Abechaw M. Gobry

3. Bakery Buddies
   By Elle Karrabian

4. Bobby Beaver and the Contest
   Written and Illustrated by Elliana Moes

5. The Diary of Max the Dog
   By Amintha A. Taw

6. Greta Takes a Swing
   By Elle Karrabian
1ST PLACE WINNER

BAKERY BUDDIES

BY: ELLIE HSU KUWABARA

ILLUSTRATIONS

CARTOONS
Chapter 1
Where are We?

“Hey! Where are we, Cupcake?” asked Cookie. “I have no idea” said Cupcake. “You were just baked. Now you’re in the display case for sale at Ellie’s Bakery,” said the other pastries. “What will happen to us?” asked Cookie and Cupcake. “Well, you’re going to be eaten!” said the other pastries. “Oh no! We must escape!” cried the bakery buddies.

Chapter 2
What’s for Breakfast?

“Where should we go next?” asked Cupcake. “Let’s start walking and try to find a new home,” she said. Suddenly a pigeon came out of nowhere and tried to eat them! The bakery buddies ran for cover under a bench. “Pheew! That was a close one. Let’s be more careful,” said Cookie. They saw a toy store nearby. “Let’s try that place,” said Cupcake.
GRADE 4 WINNERS

- Forever Friends
  By: Emma K. Le Duc

- Ye Haw! South Dakota Here We Come!
  By: Zylla Kleinfieldt

- Azzam
  Written and Illustrated by Sam Stuczynski

- Mitten's
  By: Jimmy B.
1ST PLACE WINNER

MITTENS

BY : JIMMY HODGE

ILLUSTRATIONS

3RD PLACE
Rabbit ran over to the snow field. Spider was working on the head of the biggest snowman Rabbit had ever seen. Spider handed Rabbit a pair of turquoise mittens, after all he had three more pair. Once Rabbit pulled on the funny mittens, he became a sculptor. He helped the other animals finish the snowman, placing the carrot nose in the middle of the face.

The next day at school, Rabbit found a funny hat in his locker with a note from Bear, "I don't need anymore fur. I have plenty. Enjoy being part Bear. Your friend, Bear." Rabbit placed the hat on his head and immediately felt bigger with a loud voice and tone of courage. He felt like a Lion walking in the jungle of Africa.

The next day there was more snow. Octopus quietly placed a pair of red boots outside Rabbit's locker with a note. "I have eight feet and many boots. I thought you might like these. Sincerely, Octopus" At recess Rabbit put on the warm, red boots. Instantly, Rabbit felt like sinking in the snowing sand of the beach. He jumped and skipped around the playground like other animals.
THE NECKLACE

BY: SYDNEY RECKER

ILLUSTRATIONS

COLLAGE
Once they got there, they had cake and opened presents. Grace's favorite present was a painting, like a necklace.

She woke up early the next morning. Two little mermaids came to her tent. They said, "We are the Little Mermaids!"

Grace was happy and excited. The Little Mermaids taught her about the sea and its wonders. They gave her a special necklace, which Grace cherished for a long time.

That day, Grace and her friends had the best birthday ever.
1ST PLACE TIE

ADVENTURES OF A
1 ¾ INCH MAN

BY: JOSEPHINE GASSER

ILLUSTRATIONS

BINDING
I stepped into the brisk wind and took a deep breath. The wind felt cold and sharp on my face. My steps sank into crisp white snow. I saw a long, brown stem sticking out of the snow. Atop the stem was a spiky ball of seeds. "I could get a good look around from the top of that dried flower." I climbed up.

Up and down the river we went, passing all sorts of wonderful things. Shimmering schools of little fish darted by us. Sunlight shone on gray pebbles, patterning them with light. Crayfish flicked their tails, darting under rocks when we swam by. Once, in the shallows, we passed between the feet of a bird and looked up to see its big open beak! We shot away before it could catch us!

Throughout the day, we saw many new things, and we met two more riverkeepers. One was a huge, knobbly, old, gray fish with whiskers under his mouth. Sam introduced him as Old Man Shangpoo. The other riverkeeper was half-buried in sand when we met her. Her long, pointed nose stuck out of the sand, and she carried a smooth, gray shell everywhere. Sam introduced her as Young Miss Turtle.
GRADE 6 WINNERS
THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

BY: JESSI SALIMES

ILLUSTRATIONS

1ST PLACE
“Good! Call now! I hate to mention it, BUT chicken butchering day is coming up and I want you to be prepared.”

Oh no, this can’t be! Thank you Mr. Fluffy Bottom. Thank you!” I stay up for hours to figure out what I should do. I think and think, and finally...

I sleep well and the next day, I get right to work.

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In the morning, when farmer Terry comes and opens the door, I make a big deal. Again, he doesn’t even see me. Lucky for the sheep pen and duck under the fence. “Look! Sadie!” I call.

She comes, what are you doing here?” Sadie asks.

“Want to cut my feathers like you cut your own?”

Sadie nods, “That’s a good idea.”

Lil says.

“Feathering day is soon, I want to blend in with the sheep.”

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Lil and Sadie look at each other and give a wink. Next thing you know my feathers are beautifully clipped, this is going to work out just fine.

Some Farmer Terry comes to feed us. I stick out and open my mouth to stretch, but only a few come out. “how did this chicken get in here? Come here too! What happened to your feathers?”

I stay up for hours to figure out what I should do next. I think and think, and finally, I have another idea. I sleep well and the next day, I get right to work.
GRADE 7 WINNERS
DEBBITY DOODAH
AND THE CASE OF THE HIJACKED BOLO TIE

BY: AMANDA BILLERBECK

ILLUSTRATIONS

2ND PLACE
"But, I'm curious. Why were you hiding your box?" Sgt. Beauregard asked.

"They're for Debbie's surprise office warming party. I bought her the last two long johns because I know they're her favorite!"

"Chowgosh. The surprise party! With all the excitement, we nearly forgot!" And at that, Skipper, Tai, Maurice, and Dmitry began pulling out gifts and balloons.

"I can't," Sammy said, and he began to cry. "I'm sorry, Sammy. I'm going to have to take you down to headquarters."

"Wait a minute!" Debbie interrupted. "This is so out of character for Sammy. Could we stop at my office first? I think I know what happened and I'd like to test my theory."

"We'll come too." Out of the crowd stepped Debbie's friends, Skipper, Tai, Maurice, and Dmitry.

Sammy thought he'd sit for a few minutes and take in the beautiful morning. He spotted an available bench.

"May I share this with you?" he asked the well-dressed cat reading a newspaper.

"Of course," the other cat replied. The two introduced themselves. Sir Mittens (as the other cat was called) and Sammy chatted pleasantly for a while. Sammy learned that Sir Mittens had just been to Tigger Marie's Jewelers and purchased a diamond bolo tie.
FOREST FIRE

BY; MADELYNN RETZLAIFF

ILLUSTRATIONS

PAINTING MEDIA
Later that day, Mindy and Renji were basking in the afternoon sun by the pond when they heard a crash. Rustle for few through the dry, tall grass nearby.

"Lan?" Renji yelled after the fox.

Mindy’s sister paused and looked back. Fear flashed wild in her bright green eyes.

"Fire..." She panted. "In... Forest... Run!" She nudged him away from the forest.

Mindy, you must go to your house first," Renji ordered. "When Lan and I find a safe place to crouch, we'll scramble quickly and be nipped at Lan’s paws and drifted through the forest.

It seemed as though hours passed when he finally found her. She was trapped beneath a fallen log. It was on fire!

Renji scrambled over and tried to lift the tree. The deadly blaze scorched his back and he was sent reeling back. He nudged Mindy’s face and was relieved to see her eyes flutter open.

"Oh, Mindy!" He exclaimed. "We must hurry!"

Together they lifted the tree, but Mindy was so choked with smoke that she fainten once more. Renji gripped her by the scruff of her neck and blinked his stinging eyes. The sting was bad, but they were not even close to living.

Renji ran and ran from the smoldering trees and soon reached Mindy’s backyard. Lan was there feeding the cubs a small fish from the stream. The twins heard Renji struggling to get to them and turned, their eyes wide.

"Who is that?" The younger one asked.

Mindy jolted awake when she heard the unfamiliar voice.

"Oh..." she croaked. "I'm... Mindy..." Mindy sat and stiffly started to clean herself. They would be staying the the backyard for a while.
GRADE 8 WINNERS
1ST PLACE WINNER

OCEAN EYES

BY: CIERRA BUTLER

ILLUSTRATIONS

MIXED MEDIA
"Strength comes in the moment when you think you can’t go on, but you know you can anyway."

"Happiness..."

"RIP we love you"

"WHY"

"Cancer, goodbye, love."

"Reflection, reflection, reflection... Ring!"
GRADES 9-12
ANXIETY

BY: LYDIA BROSIG
You slowly reprimand yourself for being so damaged. So useless. So unworthy of happiness. How can you pretend to take on the world when you can’t even put on your own clothes?

Fear wracks your body as the landscape around you feels away, revealing something foreign. And if it is foreign, it is distressing to your mind and body alike. Shadows press upon your vulnerability, manipulating your own mind against you. It is your fault this is happening. Perhaps you weren’t so broken.

You begin to ask:

Hard and dry, they range your throat and contract your chest as you accept your numbing reality. You shiver in cold sweat, lying here on the carpeted floor that once offered comfort and sanctuary beneath your feet. Your chest barely rises and falls. It can’t. The weight of the world rests upon it. However, the weight of hopelessness keeps it from fighting back.

You are paralyzed. But your mind isn’t.

Your senses are fully aware... and that’s the most unfortunate part.

You refuse to look at the child lying in your lap. This was not yours. It? No! You have no obligations! No expectations! And when there’s no expectations, there’s no disappointments.

The child cries, wails of anguish similar to your own. That pushes you to the edge. You turn away. You put your arms around the child while you, absolutely refusing to acknowledge its existence. As the seconds pass, the child crumbles to ash in your lap, screams still ringing in your ears.

Another punishment for your ignorance and the Demon’s hunger for self-preservation.

Your ship is sinking. You taste salt on your lips - and it’s not just from your sweat. You feel the water as quickly as possible. It’s no use. You sink. For ages you sink, until you feel the sun. The sun is your savior, but it dehydrates you. It kills you slowly... painfully... worse than the water.
GRAND PRIZE ILLUSTRATIONS

YE HAW!
SOUTH DAKOTA
HERE WE COME

BY: ZYLIA KLEINFELDT

LITERARY

2ND PLACE GRADE 4
My family and I went on a summer vacation to South Dakota this past summer. I was excited to see Mount Rushmore and especially excited to see wild buffalo herds that were advertised on all our South Dakota brochures that we researched before our trip.

Finally, we are in South Dakota and we see Mount Rushmore! It was unbelievable; I am so excited to see wild buffalo. While we were driving through all the National Parks roads, there were signs reading...

We rode up and down hills while the sun was setting with a warm golden glow on the rolling hills of prairie grasses. The grass swayed like flickering candlelight against the gleaming sky.

Then, as we were driving around a winding hill, we saw hundreds of buffalo! It was amazing to see...Such large wild animals being so calm! Just a few yards away, I thought; grazing in the fields. I thought this is the South Dakota that was advertised in the brochures, This is America’s beautiful!

(However, on this adventure, I wish we could’ve followed breadcrumbs instead of buffalo dung.)

Buffalo dung for sure! We realized that we would soon see a herd of buffalo!
1st PLACE ILLUSTRATIONS

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

BY: JESSI SALIMES
The hen is in the chicken feeder looking for something. I can smell something that isn’t right. “Hey you, chicken! A worm in there!”

I feel a pop under the food. “Hey!” I ask.

The hen pops out of the food. “What did you do?” She asks.

I say, “Nothing.”

I make my way over to the cow and say, “What do you want Fluffy?”

The cow says, “I’m hungry.”

I say, “I have an idea.”

I sleep well and the next day. I get right to work.

The morning, when farmer Tony comes and opens the door, I make a run for it. He doesn’t even see me.

I go to the sheep pen and dust under the fence. “Lil’ Sadie!” I call.

My name, what are you doing in here?” Sadie asks.

I say, “Could you help me? I say, ‘Would you cut my feathers like you cut your turtle’s?’

It’s a good idea.” Lil Sadie says.

She thinks for a moment. I want to blend in with the sheep.

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THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO PROMOTE THE LITERARY COMPETITION.