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**For Immediate Release**

**April 17, 2019**

**Universal Publishing Announces 2019 National Handwriting Contest Winners**

***Waymart, Pa. –*** Universal Publishing is pleased to announce the winners of its 12th annual National Handwriting Contest. The handwriting contest rewards students for their exceptional handwriting skills and raises awareness about the importance of handwriting instruction.

Students completed a two-part entry form in either manuscript (grades K-2) or cursive (grades 3-8) that required writing a provided sentence and answering an open-ended question. A teacher division encouraged teacher participants to enter by providing samples of both manuscript and cursive writing. Winners were selected from submissions by public, private, and home school students and teachers from across the nation.

First-, second-, and third-place winners were selected for each grade in grades K-5 and for grades 6-8 combined, as well as for the teacher division. Honorable mentions were also awarded in both the student and teacher divisions.

When asked about the contest, Universal Publishing president Thomas Wasylyk said, “This is a great way to get students involved and promote excellence in handwriting - a skill used by every student, every day, in every subject. Our winners should be very proud of their achievements!”

Each student who placed in the student division will receive a four-inch handwriting contest medal and a certificate of achievement. Additionally, first-place winners will each be awarded $100 and their teachers will earn a $100 Universal Publishing gift card. Honorable mentions will receive a certificate of achievement.

Each winner in the teacher division will receive a personalized award plaque and the first-place winner will also receive $100. Teacher division winners and honorable mentions will all receive a personalized National Handwriting Champion classroom poster.

Participants were judged on their letter formation, size, and spacing; word spacing; line quality; and slant. Judges also considered joinings on cursive entries.

For a complete list of winners, see the attached list of winners or visit [upub.net/contest](http://upub.net/2018-handwriting-contest).

**About Universal Publishing**

Universal Publishing is an educational publishing company that specializes in handwriting instruction. Founded in 2001 by president Thomas Wasylyk, Universal Publishing currently offers five complete handwriting programs, as well as handwriting support materials, writing journals, and resources for teachers. For more information, visit [upub.net](http://upub.net/) or <upub.net/contest>.

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