CoverStory

Judges spot winning art in pencil drawing of Dalmatian puppy

he judges of this year's annual *Cooperative Living* Youth Art Contest knew they had spotted a Best-in-Show winner in 10-year-old Hanlin Zhang's precisely penciled art contest submission. The winning artwork depicts a spotted Dalmatian puppy curled up on a red-and-white-checkered blanket.

In this year's annual contest, young creative minds (kindergarten through fifth grade) were tasked with the challenge of portraying visual interpretations of the theme, "Animals."

We received hundreds of colorful images with artistic illustrations of every kind of animal imaginable — everything from lions and exotic birds to puppies and bunny rabbits.

Best-in-Show honors go to Hanlin, the daughter of Jing and Catherine Zhang of Vienna. "I was very happy when I found out I won. I worked on my drawing for three weeks," says Hanlin, who would one day like to have a dog of her own. "We are very excited about Hanlin winning Best in Show in the contest. We don't own a dog yet, but it has been Hanlin's wish for years," says her mother. In the meantime, Hanlin settles for petting all the neighborhood dogs.

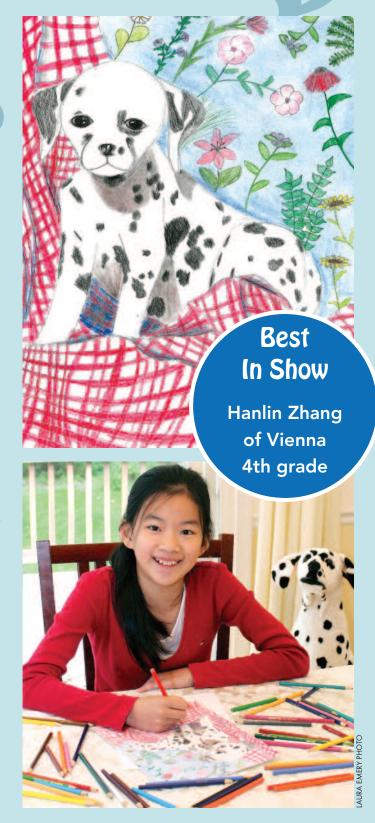
Hanlin, who is a rising fifth grader at Flint Hill Elementary School in Vienna, used colored pencils to create her winning entry. "My art teacher asked me to look through a folder of images and pick something that would inspire my art. I chose the Dalmatian because I thought it was cute," she says. It was a natural fit, since Hanlin says she not only loves dogs because they're playful and fun — but she's also a huge fan of panda bears. "They're both black-and-white animals, I guess," she says, smiling.

Hanlin is featured on the cover of this issue posing in purple with her new stuffed-animal Dalmatian friend, Spotty. Hanlin loves pink, enjoys playing basketball with her 14-year-old brother Hanwen and says she'd like to be a pediatrician one day.

More than 425 student artists entered the annual competition, which was judged by staff at the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives, publisher of *Cooperative Living*. First place in each grade category received a \$25 cash prize, and Hanlin's Best-in-Show work earned her a \$100 prize.

"We started the Youth Art Contest to encourage youthful creativity and give kids a chance to share their artwork with the magazine's 1.25 million readers," said Bill Sherrod, *Cooperative Living's* editor. "Everyone who judged the entries was impressed with both the quality and creativity of the students' work."

The contest was announced in the February and March-April issues of *Cooperative Living* and entries were due May 1. Congratulations to all whose work was selected in the judging process. And again this year, we want to thank all the young artists who sent in their artwork for judging. You're all winners!



Animals Kindergarten



FIRST PLACE Arnav Dusad of Brambleton



SECOND PLACE Abigail Knauth of Woodbridge



THIRD PLACE Maliyah Famble of Tappahannock

First Grade



FIRST PLACE
Samika Karnam
of Centreville



SECOND PLACE Emme Heale of Stuarts Draft



THIRD PLACE Viktoria Ignatieva of Fairfax

CONTEST WINNERS

Second Grade



FIRST PLACE
Katelyn Knauth of Woodbridge



SECOND PLACE Ezra Toole of Stuarts Draft



THIRD PLACE Colton Blankenship of Mount Crawford

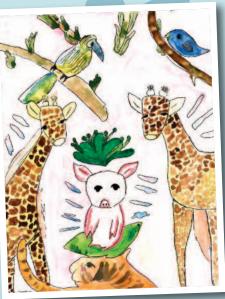
Third Grade



FIRST PLACE Micaela Deza of Chantilly



SECOND PLACE
Mariner Gleich of Lexington



THIRD PLACE Samhita Kotamraju of Ashburn

Fourth Grade



FIRST PLACE Savanna Loy of Manassas



SECOND PLACE Kerrigan Mitcham of Newport



THIRD PLACE Kendall Gordon of Dinwiddie

Fifth Grade



FIRST PLACE Emerson Lewis of Virginia Beach



SECOND PLACE Mihika Dusad of Brambleton



THIRD PLACE Sadie Alphin of Goshen

HONORABLE MENTION

Molli Dickey

KINDERGARTEN

Zaylee Fortune David Perez Jacob Mullins **Ronald Gibson** Shanelle Esco Caraiyn Lepp Caylin Dear **Carly Sprouse** Harley Delp Finnegan Aeran Kapi Khaitan Ariana Kosak Skylar McDaniel **Elizabeth Evans** Nevaeh Rexrode Hensley Neil Michael Nenyuk Sophie Hampt **Natalie Saul** Michael Isel Lucy Quillen Olive Zelley **Deckard DeLorme Nailah Sanders Norah Willis** Allen Spain Maggie Rutz **Andrew Purves** Kai Toole Ashlyn Parkinson Jonah Lanthier Hannah White Eva Textor Eli Knaggs Vera Smith Noah Mangan Caleb Rolon Caleb Moseley **Cole Perkins Anabelle Jones** Madelyn Robic **Elly Sennott**

FIRST GRADE

Seth Redd

Hailey Lam

Hashvik Poola

Ashlynn Minnigh

Liliana Wasicki-Sweat

Layla Waldron Caleya Robinson Melanie Pride

Tyler Mcleod **Robert Stargel** Elijah Smith Desireé Alvarez

Payton Wade Raelyn Decatur **Gabriel Meyers**

Lyric Walker Mariah Cauthorne **Danielle Buckley**

Quiara Armstead Laete Barrientos

Kayleigh Wilson **Imani Canady**

LeeAnn Toy

Ellie Walker Tyler Eickmeyer

Emily Scheulen Rachel Mondarez

Mya Pope

Arnold Benevedes Micah Lipscomb Morgan Davis Kevin Diaz-Garnica

Calli Grace Giorgilli Lane Green Joshua Fedor Joseph Sellers Alyssa Eickmeyer **Madison Charnley** Scarlett Anderson

Colter Christensen Vincenzo Gagliardi

Caleb Fedor Noah Marshall-Maki

Elin Essex **Bailey Wolfe** Luci Chapman Ryleigh Phillips Caleb Crouse Jeffrey Hamilton **Daniel Long**

Elyse Lyon

Subhashree Munagala

Taylor Brann James Robertson Steven Rogers Natalie Fisher **Paisley Deardeuff Ashley Pumphrey** Morgan Bartley **Abby Piper**

Jolene Quick

Noah Dacko Danica Austin **Gabriel Faust Alexis Corbin** Eva Melgar Jackson Ward **Austin Darden** Kaitlyn Kim Sarah Oberg **Landon Cook** Lewis Gibson Hazel Altman

Caelan Drummond

Macey Paxton

Liam Murrell

Amira Mahdi

SECOND GRADE Isis Lachia Layton Ricky Ellis Zeke Reid Caleb Jackman Luke Hill Hannah Mangan Brynn Raedeke Caleb Word Shelby vanHoven Riley Nicely **Abagail Newton** Ella Carpenter Jayden Haywood **Asher Lanthier** Bella Rose Foster Wyatt Kenny Meghan Alicie Camden Kapolka **Alexis Collins** Amelia Glass

Zach Uribe

Hanna Rivera

Phoebe Miller

Madison Barb

Kyla Wilhelm

Thomas Zephir

Anthony Williams

Brittany Wenger Julie Knauth

Jayden Carneal

Tatiana Kadelis

Arthur Duke Henry Ouzts

Kolten Kerr

Isabelle Prasarn Kierra Altice **Noah Waits** Erin Andreas **Grace Chapple** Sebastian Wunsch Keerthana Sivakumar Carly Shotwell Reese Morris Conner Lokey **Charlotte Fisher Brooklyn Clark Tymere Lewis** Jaylen Payne **Matthew Smith** Bella Foster Lincoln Roncaglione **Bailey Whetzel** Soraya Lopez Caitlin Lepp Ava Crofoot **Robert Mcleod** Chloe Hoyt Caiden Kisiah

Dane Grill Amani Famble Tyson Dugan **Chloe Stamper Tegan Grimshaw**

Olivia Lochner

Anika Karnam Daphne Savage **Kyleigh Makely** Veronica Polcha Susan Hevener **Payton Gardner** Kaitlyn Wilhelm **David Rackmales** Caroline Rackmales

THIRD GRADE

John Gibson Deon'ni Wells

Wil Prince Mathew Lehr **Chanel Smith Kyndal Delaney** Myriana Rodriguez Monilla **Alani Canales** Teagan Way Madilynn Anderson

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HONORABLE MENTION

Cecilia Stargel Kaylee Kingsbury Jaden Puckett Katarina Poicha Luke Delp **Autumn Hatcher Gwenyth Copley** Tirzah DeLorme Claire Perkins **Dache Carmine Alillian Smith**

Alexander Garcia-Leyva Jonas Miller

Trevor Burrows

Dejah Baltimore Caris Grell Clara Deardeuff Ava Witt **Russhe Jones**

Aiden Lassiter Ainsley Gray Katie Brunton Simone Hume Annie Heale Giovanni Gagliardi Donovan Keyser Skylynn Heatwole

Alice Greenwood **Amin Nahidian** Reese Grimshaw Deborah McMurray

Julia Haworth **Dulaney Wilhelm** Lauryn Cook Sasha Albarelli Kammie Fisher Kallie Fisher Grayson Seyle Maisam Nahidian Landon Heath Mia Porter

Zara Ramadan Mirabella Lanthier Sarah Bihi

Simon Miller **Damien Hall** Hailey Hendershot Connor Hilliard Frances Dacko Megan Wolfcale Seamus West **Emma Jones** Rebecca Reed

Megan Crawford Elliott Moreno Carlie Mowell Elsa McGarvey Jade Collins **Trinity Puffinberger** Falyn Forcier Marissa Seaman Slade Sugerman **Grace Risser Gladys Campos**

FOURTH GRADE Sara Turney Manushree Munagala Skylar DeLorme Kayleigh Jordan Autumn Reed Ellie Shoaf Hrushi Poola Georgia Butler Shannon Alexander Lucy Watson **Autumn Brooks** Sarah White

Michael Ward, III Pepper Maranto **Alexis Boland** Christopher Kapolka Alex Digrasssie Mason Galloway Kylee Click Alyse Habeciner **Hayley Ring** Adalynn Jamison Jayson Mitchell Summer Nolan Melanie Urgo Kiera Saint Fleur Amaya Kardelis

Ella Varner Hannah Meyerhoeffer **Daisy Hutchinson** Kaitlyn Mullins Maya Whitelaw Devyn Simmons Johnnie Tidd Kara Seaman Ryan Burton Sasha Parrish Sarah Coleman Peter Nenyuk Evan Kimble

Emily Eroh Julia Moyle Sreyus Guruvu Jade Martin Joshua Sellers Haylie Hite Samuel Havener Landon Sobrito Abby Wilhelm Achal Sirsikar **Tevin Ross** Teagan Allen Valerie Castro-Valdez Angeleena Myers

Tristan Carpenter Bly Hull Sammie Gray William McClung Nevaeh Godwin Rylee Chinault Nick Hardy Alexander Raynes

FIFTH GRADE

Josiah McMurray Casey Chen Cecilia McGuire Savannah Crisman **Delaney Drummond Hunter Word Grace Howard** Cassandra Lowry Addie Craghead Zach Sweetman Lexi Vonetes Abigail Moseley Samantha Kim Hannah McCoy Rebekah Lam Kenneth Kerr Jeremy Nichols Kadynce VanHoven Kenley Foster **Madeline Jones** Makenna Blair Mariana Vendes Luke Hooker Charlie Potter Aiden Ockerman

Landon Paschall

Dylan Love

Kalie Miller

Cassie Mayton

Hollyn Gleich Colleen Houttekier Alex Parks Ashlyn Peiffer Samuel Jones Madison Craven Kinzee Truslow Michael Polcha Logan Showalter Serenity King **Felicity Wunsch** Samiya Famble Casey Grell Elena Brunton Cameron Showalter Ethan Jackman Joshua Jackman **Andrew Rathburn** Vanessa Snapp Sara Barilla Abigail Harper Ashley Mosonyi Gracie Shoemaker Alexa Byrne **Hunter Stamper Eugene Lee** Alicia Sweet **Tage Haynes** Te'Asjah Rahim Lauren Clarke Amy Genz Alexandra Hemingway

These children also entered the art contest

Hannah Park

Ella Hensley

Lydia Kelley

Cammi Foster

Arya Paranganat

Varunika Girubakaran **Brooke** Arianna Whitelaw Madison Wysocki **Alexis Moats Evan Adams** Daniel Autumn Warner Zalea Good **Dewey Moyers Aunah Moyers** Dameron Powell