

Tidwell Name Google Doodle Winner For Mississippi

TUPELO, Miss. – When Morgan Tidwell entered the doors of Lawndale Elementary on Tuesday morning for the first time since school ended, she had no idea as to why she and her family were back on campus.

By the time she left, however, she was Google famous.

Tidwell, who just completed the fifth grade, learned she was the Doodle for Google Mississippi winner. Google officials, along with teachers, staff and district administrators, were on hand for the big announcement.

"I was so confused," said Tidwell, who based her design off the question, When I grow up. "I had no idea. But I'm so excited."

The Doodle for Google contest, which debuted in 2008, is open for all K-12 students in the United States to create their own interpretation of the Google logo. Submissions were divided into five Grade Groups (K-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12), with all 50 states and three territories having a winner from each group.

Next will be an online public voting forum (doodle4google.com) from June 3-7, where five finalists will be selected. At the completion of the public voting period, the panel of Google

doodler artists, along with guest judges, will consider the amount of votes each of the 53 state and territory winners received, as well as the criteria. They will then give each a score.

The five finalists will receive a \$5,000 scholarship, while the overall winner, announced in late June, will receive a \$30,000 scholarship. In addition, the school the student attended will be awarded \$50,000.

Tidwell was also presented a Chrome Book and all kinds of Google swag.

"Morgan is a bright and precious student with a creative mind," Lawndale art teacher Kit Stafford said. "She has always loved art and drawing. Morgan created her doodle to represent the fact that when she grows up, she hopes to be an architect and design communities where people can live and be happy."

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