

Winners of “Everyone Belongs Here” Poem and Poster Contest Announced

The LGBTQ Round Table of the Alameda Unified School District has announced the winners of the 2017-18 “Everyone Belongs Here” Poem and Poster Contest.

Students in grades 4 through 12 were invited to submit posters and poetry to this year’s contest. The suggested reflection was a quote from poet Audre Lorde: “It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.

The Grand Prize poster winner was Angelica Tigas, a 7th grader at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School. That poster will be distributed throughout AUSD schools and at the district office.

The high school winner was Kiara Hernandez, a 10th grader also from EHS.

Benji Kapelke, a 5th grader at Otis Elementary School, won first prize in 5th-8th grade division of the poem contest. Talia Grummet (EHS) and Sam Martinez (AHS) shared the prize for the 9th-12th grade division. Their poems are available on the [LGBTQ Round Table web page](#).

Winners received small cash prizes and certificates.

The Round Table also provided two Encinal High School seniors with scholarships this year – Ella Burke and Kaitlin Alcontin. Both these seniors were instrumental to the LGBTQ Round Table and to their student leadership at their school over the last several years.

