

2009-2010 International CPA Winner Descriptions

Best Overall Community Service winner:

Optimist Club of Timonium (33295) Maryland-South Delaware District

Young Artists Showcase

The Young Artists Showcase was a juried competition and exhibition of original artwork by student artists from high schools in Baltimore city and county. Public, parochial and independent schools were invited to submit up to 3 works of art created by students. The exhibition was open to the public at a local art gallery. Two professional artists served as jury members and selected a Best Painting, Best Drawing and Best Photograph as well as an Honorable Mention work in each of the categories. The winners were announced during a reception at the gallery. The top winners were awarded \$100 and \$50 gift certificates for art supplies were presented to the 3 runner-ups. All of the artists that had their work displayed received Certificates of Participation. A total of 51 youth representing 18 local high schools took part in the program.

Best Overall Fundraising winner:

Noontime Optimist Club of Freehold (27033) Atlantic Central District

Taste of the Towns

The Club was looking for a project that had not been done recently and would generate a lot of interest. During a brainstorming session, the suggestion for a food tasting event was made. Members immediately got to work contacting local restaurants and researching a possible venue. The CentraState Associated Auxiliaries approached the Club about working together on the event. Members of both groups were assigned restaurants to approach about participating and were responsible for following up with a contract agreement. Food and Wine magazine, a division of American Express was contacted for a donation, so the magazine could be used as a souvenir for attendees. Local stores and businesses were asked to donate items for a gift basket auction. Tickets were sold to the public for \$75.00. Attendees sampled food, participated in the silent auction and enjoyed the evening. The event raised over \$19,000, which was split between the two sponsoring groups. The Optimist Club allocated the funds raised to Camp Quality, Childhood Cancer Campaign projects and scholarships.

Future of Optimism winner:

Fairbury Optimist Club (10030) Nebraska District

TRx: Meds Disposal Educator

The Optimist Club was interested in assisting in the "Drug Take Back" program offered by the local hospital as a service to the community. After contacting the coordinators, Members learned the program was being discontinued because of new regulations imposed on collecting and disposing of pharmaceutical products. The Club researched the ecological effects of improper disposal and spoke with local law enforcement and the Poison Control Center about the increased use of prescription pills by teens and the rising number of accidental fatalities.

Members designed and made a dinosaur costume to appeal to youth and attract the attention of adults in order to educate them on acceptable medication disposal methods.

TRx attended the southeast Nebraska 20th Annual Earth Festival for fifth grade students from all local public and parochial schools. He presented each of the students with a bookmark donated by the Nebraska Pharmacists Association. Since the event, TRx has received many invitations and is being scheduled for appearances during the school year.