



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **BOSTES CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING YOUNG WRITERS AT *WRITEON***

Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) President, Tom Alegounarias announced today the Gold award winners of the BOSTES annual youngest writer competition – *WriteOn*.

*WriteOn* is for NSW students in Years 1 to 6 and aims to encourage students to develop their creative writing skills.

To enter, students are required to write a short piece of up to 500 words on a photograph selected by BOSTES – this year a boy looking through binoculars.

According to Mr Alegounarias, some teachers involve their whole class in *WriteOn* and others prefer to use it as individual project for some students.

“This year a total of 470 entries were received with a panel of primary school teachers selecting 17 Gold, 14 Silver and 19 Bronze award winners chosen from each stage.

“It’s always a pleasure to attend this event as it offers me the chance to recognise the amazing creativity of our younger students.

“Initiatives like *WriteOn* are a great way to develop a life-long love of writing, a skill that has so many applications throughout life.

“As these young writers progress through school, I trust and hope they will keep writing – for both themselves and for grateful readers such as me,” Mr Alegounarias said.

The Gold award winners recognised at the event were:

- Mika Lofts, Tighes Hill Public School
- Alexandra Inglis, Gib Gate, Mittagong
- Sebastian Lai-Smith, Knox Grammar Preparatory School, Wahroonga
- Jacob Mikhael, Redeemer Baptist School, North Parramatta
- Olivia Carter, Emmanuel Anglican College, Ballina
  
- Emily Pearse, Oxford Falls Grammar School, Oxford Falls
- Bryan Haryanto, Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School, Kensington
- Emily Oates, Queenwood School for Girls, Mosman

- Sophia Barnard, Ravenswood School for Girls, Gordon
- Oliver O'Callaghan, International Grammar School, Ultimo
- Alice Haire, Wee Waa Public School
- Abigail Hardinge, St Mary's Primary School, Bellingen
- Pepita Barton, Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College, Fletcher
- Caitlin Boyley, Richard Johnson Anglican School, Oakhurst
- Gwendalyn Dabaja, Presbyterian Ladies' College, Croydon
- Mia Cameron, Abbotsleigh Junior School, Wahroonga

“Outstanding entries are published by BOSTES which is a fantastic opportunity for any young author.

“I would like to congratulate these outstanding young students who have had their talent nurtured and fostered by quality teachers with classroom content grounded in our quality NSW syllabuses and the support of their parents,” Mr Alegounarias said.

For more information visit <http://writeon.bos.nsw.edu.au/winners.html>

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