

AIS YOUTH REPORT

FALL 2018

By Cheryl Deaton, Youth Chairman

There are 369 youth members at this time with @12 being "inactive" due to incorrect addresses (newsletters returned to me with 'undeliverable-no forwarding address'). Also, 37 youth members were removed from a CIP in Region 14 because they were not members of the CIP and the teacher reported that they no longer attended the school. Home addresses were not available. These youth members have dues that are paid and expire sometime in 2019.

Louisiana irises were shipped to all youth members in August/September. Many thanks to Paul Gossett and Joe Musacchia, Co Chairs of the National Convention for making this possible, and for the wonderful gentlemen of the Society for Louisiana Irises, Robert Treadway, Ron Killingsworth and Plantation Point Nursery, and Joe Musacchia for preparing and donating nearly 400 irises, and making sure that the annual tradition of sending irises to AIS Youth after the convention continued. I spent \$501.14 for the padded envelopes and shipping costs, but I also received a very wonderful check in the amount of \$300 to help with the costs from Robert Treadway. 5 irises were returned due to "undeliverable-no forwarding address". Each one of the men shipped the irises to different CIPs for the adults in charge to distribute, except for Robert who shipped the irises to me for distribution to the 'independent' youth (those not associated with a CIP). Many thanks to Carolyn Hoover, Cindy Leonard and Mrs. Jean Morris for making sure the kids got their irises, and for enthusiastically mentoring AIS Youth members in the CIPs they oversee.

Deadline for the AIS Coloring Contest is November 1, 2018, and judging will take place after the Fall Board meeting. Cash prizes are awarded to all entrants.

Nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth

Achievement are being sought at this time. Adult AIS members must nominate the deserving AIS Youth member for this award. Candidates should grow a variety of irises, participate in club activities, promote AIS, attend regional and national events, perhaps hybridize, entering shows, experimenting with irises, writing for a local or regional publication, studying to become an AIS judge, signing up new members. If you know an AIS Youth member who has demonstrated some if not all of these traits, please recommend them for the CCMAYA. Deadline is January 31, 2019.

Debbie Strauss has chosen the topic for the Ackerman Essay Contest sponsored by the AIS Foundation, and has changed the age groups to 9 and under, 10-12, and 13 and up. Cash prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place winners in each age group. This year's topic is: "If you could plant an iris garden anywhere in the world, where would it be, which irises would you choose to plant, and what would you like visitors to your garden to learn?" Deadline for the entries is February 15, 2019.

By region, here is the breakdown;

Region 1 - 3 - 2	Region 2 - 6	Region 4 - 8	Region 5
Region 6 - 3 11 - 2	Region 7 - 2	Region 9 - 4	Region
Region 13 - 5	Region 14 - 250 (195 are enrolled in 5 CIPs)		
Region 15 - 12 CIPs)	Region 17 - 14	Region 18 - 48 (25 enrolled in 2	
Region 20 - 2	Region 21 - 9	Region 22 - 2	Region 23 - 2

We have 2 G/E judges and one Apprentice in the youth program. I am available for ideas and suggestions for youth groups and activities for youth members. Please mentor a young person. You'll be glad you did.