

Youth Report

Spring 2018

By Cheryl Deaton

Currently, there are 389 Youth members. We lost 3 Classroom Iris Programs in Maryland that we are hoping is just a paperwork problem, but we still have the majority of youth enrolled in CIPs in California and Missouri.

Winner of the 2017 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement is Hope Winzer from Region 18. First runner-up is her younger sister, Glory Winzer. Our Second runner-up is Katharina Brase from Region 21. For the first time in many years, no youth members will be attending the convention as I write this report. Unfortunately, Hope has been very ill during the past few years, and a new treatment compromises her immune system so she and the family are unable to travel at this time. A family friend will be accepting her and her sister's awards.

I will be announcing the winners of the Ackerman Essay Contest at the Awards Banquet. Due to a misunderstanding between Debbie and myself, the deadline for the Ackerman was published as 2 different dates, so we felt it was only fair to allow entries until the later deadline of March 15th. This places the judges under considerable pressure to decide the winners before the convention, but we are very confident that they will do their very best to select the best entries in the 12years and under group and the 13 years and up division.

Our membership usually grows once we begin having shows, so I am confident that we will once again be above 400 before my next report. If you ever want suggestions to enroll youth into your club, or start a CIP, just give me a call or send an email and I will be glad to get you some information, coloring pages, word searches, etc. to get them interested. Happy Irising!