

## SPRING 2010 YOUTH REPORT

As of my last report from Tom, there are 170 youth members of AIS. This is down slightly from a year ago, but the attrition is mostly due to youth members reaching the age of 19. I expect the numbers to rise once many shows are held as is usually the case. Tom has been wonderful in sending me new youth registrations as soon as he receives them so that the youth members are contacted within a week or less.

There are youth members in every region except 10, 11, 16 and 19. The largest representation of youth members is in Region 18. Currently there are two Classroom Iris Projects, both in Region 13.

By Region, the breakdown is as follows:

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Region 1 – 17 | Region 13 – 22 |
| Region 2 – 4  | Region 14 – 8  |
| Region 3 – 1  | Region 15 – 3  |
| Region 4 – 3  | Region 17 – 8  |
| Region 5 – 13 | Region 18 – 24 |
| Region 6 – 12 | Region 20 – 1  |
| Region 7 – 17 | Region 21 – 8  |
| Region 8 – 2  | Region 22 – 16 |
| Region 9 – 7  | Region 23 – 1  |
| Region 12 – 2 | Region 24 – 1  |

The winner of the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement is Luke Dreyer of Region 6. He is extremely active in his iris club and his region. His garden is on this year's Region 6 tour. Luke hybridizes, is studying to become an AIS judge, is co-Vice President of his club, and shares his passion for irises with his school, and his community. He lives in Lachine, Michigan.

There was a tie for first runner-up between Alex Harding of Region 17 and Sean Pennington of Region 18. Both young men will receive a first runner-up prize. There will be no award presented for second runner-up this year.

Due to the lateness of the January Bulletin, the deadline for the Ackerman Essay Contest was extended and I have not been informed of the winners yet. I will update you at the Board meeting.

As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, only 2 youth members will be attending the convention, Alex and Claire Harding.

Cheryl Deaton, AIS Youth Chair