

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Area 9 Cable Council (A9CC)
Altice of Connecticut
28 Cross Street
Norwalk, CT 06851

A9CC CONTACT: Maria Breece
Wilton Public Schools
brecem@wiltonps.org
<http://edaccess.a9cc.org/>

**Area 9 Cable Council & Optimum of CT Announce the Winners of the
2026 Access Awareness Awards (AAA) for Students Gr K–12**

The **Educational Access Awareness Awards** honors original student video productions that have been broadcast throughout the school year on Optimum's Educational Access Channel 78. The Area 9 Cable Council (A9CC) and Optimum sponsor this contest yearly to encourage students to develop video production and storytelling skills by creating access television shows relevant to their school and community. Student videos are recognized in eleven separate categories - Adult Assisted, Animation/Stop Motion, Documentary (High School), Experimental, General Interest Story, Narrative/Fiction Entries, News Shows, Public Service Announcements, Sports Highlight Reel (High School), School News Story, and Sports Play-by-Play (High School).

Video production programs play a vital role in our communities, supporting and celebrating the great work that happens every day within our schools. We received many student video submissions at the school level. The top three videos from each district in each category then advanced to the AAA contest, a Fairfield County-wide competition celebrating student excellence in video production across elementary, middle, and high school levels. An "Eddy" (Ed Access Trophy) will be presented to the school for each winning project and medals will be presented to students and schools who participated in the creation of **First**, **Second**, and **Third** Place projects.

Additionally, three John M. Repicky Awards will be presented this year. The *John M. Repicky Award* was established in 2010 to recognize Mr. Repicky for his more than twenty-five years of selfless service to the Area 9 Cable Council's Education and Government Committees. The *Repicky Award* honors the best overall project in each level (Elementary, Middle, and High School) with a \$1000 award for the high school entry and \$500 for the Middle and Elementary School winning entries to be used by the winning districts to purchase resources for their video production programs within each school.

2026 AWARDS

HIGH SCHOOL – JOHN M. REPICKY AWARD

“Wilton Public Schools”

By: Will Debernardis

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

MIDDLE SCHOOL – JOHN M. REPICKY AWARD

“Germany 1947”

By Elle Schroeder

Middlebrook Middle School - Wilton

Instructor: Marni Lindquist

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – JOHN M. REPICKY AWARD

“Girls On The Run”

By Ella Rossi

Long Lots Elementary

Instructor: Samantha Hubbard

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

HIGH SCHOOL – ADULT ASSISTED

First Place - “Unified Sports”

By Taylor Szabo

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

Second Place - “Day in a Life”

By Maxfield Steckel

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

Third Place - “Wilton Town Talks with Kiernan Feltz”

By Kiernan Feltz

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

HIGH SCHOOL – ANIMATION / STOP MOTION

First Place - “Black Hole”

By Olivia Franco

Sacred Heart Greenwich

Instructor: David Pisani

Second Place - “World of Strings”

By Alex Makrynaios

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

Third Place - “Cowgirl”

By Alex Makrynaios

Wilton High School

Instructor: Maria Breece

HIGH SCHOOL – DOCUMENTARY

First Place - “Compassion in Action”

By Maria Walsh

Sacred Heart Greenwich

Instructor: Ellyn Stewart

Second Place - “The American Red Cross”

By Izzy Nedder

Sacred Heart Greenwich

Instructor: Leah Principe

Third Place - "Secrets of Ballet"

By Kiki Horsburgh
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Jennifer Sinski

HIGH SCHOOL – EXPERIMENTAL

First Place - "The Eye of Childhood"

By Maisie Pascal
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: David Pisani

Second Place - "Nonna's Sunday Sauce"

By Sophia Sibilila
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Jennifer Sinski

Third Place - "Unattainable"

By Analyse Almonacy
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Ellyn Stewart

HIGH SCHOOL – GENERAL INTEREST STORY

First Place - "Profile: Trifecta Stepper"

By Claire Kavanagh and Katie McQuillan
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

Second Place - "Profile: Greenwich Special Olympics"

By Charlie Caffray and Michaela O'Brien
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

Third Place - "Vital Stretch"

By Sandino Bocuzzo
Wilton High School
Instructor: Maria Breece

HIGH SCHOOL – NARRATIVE/FICTION

First Place - "Short-Sighted"

By Will Debernardis
Wilton High School
Instructor: Maria Breece

Second Place - "20/20 Vision"

By Maisie Pascal
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: David Pisani

Third Place - "Mirror Mirror On The Wall"

By Molly Monohan and Kiki Horsburgh
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Jennifer Sinski

HIGH SCHOOL – NEWS SHOW

First Place - "Today From The Heart"

By Advanced Media Studies Class
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

Second Place - "Morning Warrior"

By Morning Warrior Club
Wilton High School
Instructor: Maria Breece

Third Place- "The Morning Announcements"

By NCTV 78 / Advanced TV Broadcasting Class
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Roman Cebulski

HIGH SCHOOL – PSA

First Place - "The Invisible Journey"

By Izzy Nedder
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

Second Place - "What's Up Wally-Speed Cameras"

By Class
Greenwich High School
Instructor: Sean Mayo

Third Place - "Eyes On The Road"

By Antonios Vlahakis
Wilton High School
Instructor: Maria Breece

HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL NEWS STORY

First Place - “Wilton Public Schools”

By Will Debernardis
Wilton High School
Instructor: Maria Breece

Second Place - “Profile: Campus Ministry”

By Mya Gayle and Meghan O'Leary
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

Third Place - "Profile: The King Street Chronicle"

By Bella Boone and Meghan O'Leary
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Leah Principe

HIGH SCHOOL – SPORTS HIGHLIGHT REEL

First Place - “Rams Sports Report, 9/24/25”

By PJ Neville
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Roman Cebulski

HIGH SCHOOL – SPORT PLAY-BY-PLAY

First Place - “Senior PxP Reel”

By PJ Neville
New Canaan High School
Instructor: Roman Cebulski

MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS

MIDDLESCHOOL – DOCUMENTARY

First Place - “The Wonderful World of Orangutans”

By Sam Robin
Middlebrook Middle School -Wilton
Instructor: Marni Lindquist

MIDDLE SCHOOL – GENERAL INTEREST STORY

First Place - “Germany 1947”

By Elle Schroeder
Middlebrook Middle School -Wilton
Instructor: Marni Lindquist

Second Place - "Profile of a Memory Facility"

By Mary Meagher and Noelle Oshana
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Deanna George

MIDDLE SCHOOL –PSA

First Place - "Al's Angels"

By Hollis Koch and Marin Ware
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Deanna George

Second Place - "Eye of the Storm"

By Shannon Foley, Ava Rizzo, and Paula Tonkovich
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Deanna George

MIDDLE SCHOOL –NEWS SHOW

First Place - "The Stuart Scoop: 5th Grade Edition"

By Class 5-1
Sacred Heart Greenwich
Instructor: Deanna George

Second Place - "Middlebrook News Week 5"

By Wang
Middlebrook Middle School -Wilton
Instructor: Marni Lindquist

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AWARDS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – ADULT ASSISTED

First Place - “Lower School News from the Heart: February edition”

By Class

Sacred Heart Greenwich

Instructor: Ryan Oquendo

Second - “SSTV Morning Announcements”

By SSTV Class

South Elementary School, New Canaan

Instructor: Ronna Van Veghel

Third - “The Miller-Driscoll Morning Show - Monday, March 23rd”

By Miller Driscoll TV Club

Miller Driscoll Elementary -Wilton

Instructor: Timothy Ley

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – ANIMATION/STOP-MOTION

First Place - “An Average Week of Robots”

By Chase Bittinger

Long Lots Elementary - Westport

Instructor: Samantha Hubbard

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – SCHOOL NEWS STORY

“Girls On The Run”

By Ella Rossi

Long Lots Elementary

Instructor: Samantha Hubbard

Second Place - “Breaking News: Butterflies”

By Class

Sacred Heart Greenwich

Instructor: Ryan Oquendo

Third Place - “Cider Mill School Tour”

By Dottie Billingham and Samiya Atree

Cider Mill - Wilton

Instructor: Nicole Ryan

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – GENERAL INTEREST STORY

First Place - “Space invaders! Look out!!”

By Lucy Apton

Kings Highway Elementary - Westport

Instructor: Tara Doyle

Second Place - “Fall Favorites”

By Cora Lask and Layla Perkel

Long Lots Elementary - Westport

Instructor: Barbara Eilertsen

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – NARRATIVE FICTION

First Place - “TOAST”

By Hazel Crockett and Charlotte Visconti

Kings Highway Elementary - Westport

Instructor: Tara Doyle

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – PSA

First Place - “KHS Goals”

By Cameron Kim, Ava Giambanco, and Timothy Sheehy

Kings Highway Elementary - Westport

Instructor: Tara Doyle

Second Place - “Save The Birds”

By Leon Breece

Miller Driscoll Elementary -Wilton

Instructor: Tim Ley