



Shmoop Announces Winners of its Inaugural High School Essay Contest

High School Senior from Aurora, Ill. Takes Top Spot, Wins iPad 3G

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (June 23, 2010) – Shmoop (www.shmoop.com), a publisher of digital resources that make learning fun and relevant for students, today announced the results of its first International [Poetry](#) Essay Contest. More than 500 high school students from around the globe entered Shmoop’s essay contest, which asked students to analyze “[Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening](#),” by Robert Frost.

The Champ, winner of a new iPad 3G:

- **Alex K.**, 12th Grade, Waubonsie Valley High School, Aurora, Ill.

The Finalists:

- **Amanda W.**, 11th Grade, Interlake High School, Bellevue, Wash.
- **Christopher B.**, 12th Grade, Winchester Thurston School, Pittsburgh, Penn.
- **Mariella H.**, 10th Grade, ACS Hillingdon International School, Hillingdon, Middlesex, England
- **Patrick R.**, 12th Grade, Hoover High School, Hoover, Ala.

Members of Shmoop’s expert editorial team judged entries over several rounds of evaluation. The final round was judged by Jim Burke. Mr. Burke is a special advisor to Shmoop, author of twenty books for English teachers, and founder of [The English Companion Ning](#), a popular online community for English teachers.

“Alex wrote an insightful analysis of not only the poem but the human condition, an analysis that shows a wisdom that he is too young to possess,” said Mr. Burke. “Alex’s paper helped me see new aspects of a poem I thought I already knew well enough.”

Alex’s winning essay is posted online at:

<http://www.shmoop.com/news/2010/06/21/essay-contest-winners/>.

About Shmoop

Shmoop publishes digital resources that make learning fun and relevant for students. Shmoop content is written by master teachers and Ph.D. students from Stanford, Harvard, UC Berkeley, and other top universities. Shmoop Learning Guides and Teacher’s Editions balance a fun, approachable style with academically rigorous materials to help students understand how subjects relate to their daily lives. Shmoop offers more than 3,000 titles across the Web, iPhone, Android devices, Kindle, Nook, and Sony Reader. The company was an Official Honoree in the 2009 and 2010 Webby Awards and named “Best of the Internet” by PC Magazine. Launched in 2008, Shmoop is headquartered in a Labradoodle-patrolled office in Mountain View, Calif. For more information, visit www.shmoop.com.

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