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**Washington-Centerville Public Library**

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**Dottie Yeck Good Life Award Goes to Incarnation School 8<sup>th</sup> Grader**

Hope Bradley, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader in Mrs. Erin Bade's class at Incarnation School is the winner of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Dottie Yeck Good Life Award Writing Contest hosted by Washington-Centerville Public Library. From a pool of 790 entries, Hope's essay about using her personal strengths and attitude to positively influence a situation earned the highest score throughout the three rounds of judging. Miss Bradley will receive a certificate of merit as well as a check for \$3,000. The contest is fully funded by the Dorothy R. Yeck Good Life Award endowment.

Second place (\$500) went to Hailey Kutscher in Mr. Jim Gobrail's freshman class at Centerville High School, third place (\$350) to Vaidika Ravi, also in Mr. Gobrail's class, and fourth place (\$250) went to Arwen Feng, a freshman in Mrs. Megan Joseph's class at Oakwood High School. In addition, \$250 will be awarded to Mrs. Bade's class. Twenty one Honorable Mentions will also be presented with a certificate. Those include students from Centerville High School, Chaminade Julianne High School, Incarnation School, Kettering-Fairmont High School, Magsig Middle School, Northmont Middle School, Oakwood High School, and Watts Middle School.

The contest honors the legacy of Mrs. Dottie Yeck, who was a life-long supporter of libraries, children, and the arts. Her philosophy of Being Good + Doing Good = Having Fun + Being Happy has inspired more than nine thousand teens across the Miami Valley to write about laying a good foundation for their lives over the contest's 17-year history. Mrs. Yeck was a long-time trustee of the Library and the Yeck Family Foundation continues to support her legacy of community involvement.

The top four writers will read their essays at the [Good Life Award Celebration](#) at Centerville Library on Thursday, December 1, beginning at 7 p.m. All of the winning entries can be read on the Library's website at <https://www.wclibrary.info/gla/winners/>. Also speaking at the Celebration will be author and nationally known teen leadership expert [Fran Kick](#). Kick will give a fun and dynamic presentation about personal leadership and self-motivation – relevant to people of all ages! Refreshments will be served and those needing special accommodations to attend should call contest coordinator Debe Dockins at 937-610-4429 or email [ddockins@wclibrary.info](mailto:ddockins@wclibrary.info).

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