

## Introduction

We are proud to present the anthology of the 2007 West Virginia Young Writers contest. It showcases the stories of 24 students who first won in their counties in their age divisions and then won in the state contest. These Young Writers represent 21 counties from around the state. The West Virginia Young Writers Contest has honored good writing by our state's students in grades one through twelve for 23 years. The contest is an initiative of the West Virginia Writing Project sites: The NWP at WVU, CWVWP, MUWP and satellite site, Coalfield Writers. The 2007 contest was directed by the Central West Virginia Writing Project, Barbara Holmes, Director, and by the West Virginia Department of Education, Terry Reale, Coordinator of English and Language Arts.

### Young Writers Steering Committee 2007

Barbara Holmes, CWVWP  
Terry Reale, West Virginia Dept. of Education  
Dr. Jo Blackwood, University of Charleston  
Sheila Bokken, CWVWP  
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Barbara Crawford, CWVWP  
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### Young Writers Judges 2007

Barbara Holmes: MUGC  
Lou Chafin: Kanawha County  
Kathy Walker: Kanawha County  
Karen Dillon: Logan County

Mary Hawkins: Logan County  
Linda McKnight: Logan County  
Barbara Crawford: Nicholas County  
Pat Banning: Putnam County

We gratefully acknowledge these sponsors of the Young Writers Contest and Celebration Day:

West Virginia Department of Education  
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The anthology cover design was created by Logan High School senior Amber Horton with the guidance of art teacher Peggie Hensley.