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NEWS

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Colorado's Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner Honored at State Capitol

DENVER — The Colorado winner of the 2010 National Arbor Day Foundation Poster Contest, a fifth-grade student at Denver's Dora Moore K-8 School, was honored at the State Capitol on April 19.

Sen. Pat Steadman, D-Denver, recognized winner Kimberly Gina Young in a presentation near the display of the state finalists' posters in the Rotunda of the Capitol. Young was then introduced in front of the House Assembly by Rep. Lois Court, D-Denver.

More than 1,900 posters, created by fifth-graders at 45 schools throughout Colorado, were submitted for this year's NADF poster contest. Young's poster, along with the posters of the other 44 finalists chosen by Colorado teachers, was on display at the Capitol from April 12-22.

The theme of this year's contest was *Trees are Terrific... and Energy Wise!* Participating students designed posters that demonstrated how trees help conserve energy.

"The poster contest is intended to engage students to learn about trees and their energy-saving benefits to rural and urban communities," said contest coordinator Donna Davis. Davis is the La Junta District forester for the Colorado State Forest Service and co-chair of the poster contest committee of the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC). Doug Schoch, an inspector with the City of Denver Forestry Division, serves as the other committee co-chair.

The contest is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and coordinated in Colorado by the CTC and the Colorado State Forest Service. Young's poster was selected from the state finalists by a panel of judges from the CTC and the Front Range Urban Forestry Council.

As Colorado's poster contest winner, Young advanced to represent the state as a finalist in the national competition. The national winner was chosen with support from open online voting from March 29-April 2, but will not be announced until National Arbor Day on April 30.

Young's winning poster can be viewed online at coloradotrees.org.

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