



YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment® Announce Reading Challenge Finalists

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CHICAGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA), and World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. (NYSE: WWE) are pleased to announce the 5 National Finalists of YALSA's WWE(R) WrestleMania(R) Reading Challenge. Each finalist won a trip to WrestleMania 23 in Detroit, \$2,000 for their library and a chance to compete for ringside seats at WrestleMania 23 on Sunday, April 1, 2007.

The five winners each represent a different region of the U.S., including the city of Detroit, which is hosting WrestleMania 23. Cardeale Lightfoot from Detroit, Michigan, and Carol Hale, librarian at the Skillman Branch of the Detroit Public Library, are winners of the Detroit Region; T.J. Cody from Moss, Tennessee, and Judith Cutright, librarian at the Clay County Public Library, are the winners of the South Region; Adrianna Slaughter of Mitchelville, Iowa, and Carol VanHook, media specialist at the Southeast Polk Senior High Library, are the winners from the Midwest Region; Caitlin Bollbach of Mahopac, New York, and Rita Covelli, librarian at the Mahopac Public Library, are the Northeast Region winners; and Gena Uzzle of Carson City, Nevada, along with librarian Cory King at the Carson City Library, are the West Region winners.

The WrestleMania Reading Challenge, sponsored by YALSA, asked students enrolled in grades 9-12 to read 10 books between Teen Read Week(TM), October 15-21, 2006, and January 16, 2007. Two books, Athletic Shorts by Chris Crutcher, winner of the Margaret Edwards Award, and Black & White by Paul Volponi, were required reading. Students then self-selected the 8 other titles they wanted to read. Each participant was required to submit a short reading log that described the books that were read, along with a 300-word essay or web page describing/portraying some aspect of the two required books. The top two winners from each library were submitted to the YALSA office and one winner from each region was chosen as a National finalist. More than 460 libraries from across the country participated in the program.

"YALSA has been fortunate to have the continued support of the WWE in several reading events," said YALSA President Judy Nelson. "Helping teens realize that television personalities enjoy reading, in addition to their visible professional activities, supports one of the goals of YALSA and its members--to encourage teens to read for the fun of it."

World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. (NYSE: WWE) is an integrated media and entertainment company headquartered in Stamford, Conn., with offices in New York City, Los Angeles, Toronto and London. Additional information on the company can be found at wwe.com and corporate.wwe.com.

Information about Get R.E.A.L. Read is located at: <http://getreal.wwe.com>.

For 50 years, YALSA has been the world leader in selecting books, videos, and audio books for teens. For more information about YALSA or for lists of recommended reading, viewing and listening, go to www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists, or contact the YALSA office by phone, 800-545-2433, ext. 4390; or e-mail: yalsa@ala.org.

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Source: World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.

Contact: American Library Association (ALA) Nichole Gilbert, Program Officer 312-280-4387 ngilbert@ala.org