



Back (l to r): Tyler Richer, Drake Riffle, Art Teacher Amy Gibault, Hanna Adler, Dannika Koput. Front: Rhett Wilson, Isaiah Nick (First Place), Easton Maeder (Second Place), Katia Kaiser, and Hannah Wilcox-Borg. Not present: Chyenne Ross and Hailey Frantz.

## First Bank salutes Young Artists

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“This is pretty cool, I’ve never had one of my drawings shown like this before,” said Isaiah Nick, winner of First Bank’s Thank You Card Design Contest. Nick, a third grader at Wyeville Elementary School, along with young artists from Miller, Lemonweir, Oakdale, and Camp Douglas elementary schools were recently challenged to create a design for First Bank’s annual holiday card.

“This year’s theme was thanks,” said Aaron Anderson, First Bank Retail Relationship Manager and organizer of the event. “Many of the young artists drew turkeys, obviously for Thanksgiving. Others focused on fall themes. Tyler Richer, a fifth grader, received an honorable mention for his drawing of a bank safe door with the words ‘thank you for trusting us!’ – a theme very dear to our bank and clients,” Anderson added.



Isaiah Nick accepts First Place Award for his Thank You Card entry from Aaron Anderson, First Bank.



Over 100 drawings were submitted to school art teachers who gleaned the top 60 entries and sent them to the Bank. Bank staff votes narrowed the field to 11 which were posted on First Bank’s Facebook page. Viewers cast votes for their favorites and in the end, Nick won with 67 likes for his eco-themed design.

For his efforts, Nick received \$100, a stack of printed cards to send to his friends and family, an invitation to the Bank’s recognition event, and of course, bragging rights. When asked what he’ll do with the money, he said, “I’m going to open a savings account [at First Bank] with my mom.”

“Our schools are brimming with artistic talent,” said Anderson, “Unless a person walks into a school, most of student artwork goes unnoticed. With this contest, our intention was to bring art out of the classrooms and share it with the community. Who knows, we could be launching the career of the next Picasso, Rembrandt, or Frank King right here at First Bank in Tomah.”