



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

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Utah Student Wins National Radon Contest, \$1,000

Joins five other Utah students honored for bringing awareness to the dangers of radon

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Division of Radiation Control (DRC) today announced a Utah student is the first-place winner of the 2014 National Radon Poster Contest. Maison Williams, 14, competed at-large as part of the national poster contest, sponsored by Kansas State University and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Williams, an eighth-grader at Centennial Middle School, Provo, was one of thousands of students nationwide who submitted creative artwork depicting the harmful dangers of radon gas. The annual poster contest aims to raise radon awareness and encourage radon testing in every home. Williams' poster, entitled simply "Radon," highlights one of the health effects of radon poisoning: lung cancer.

Other Utah students honored at the national level include:

- **Special Mention:** Mckenna Bate (age 13), Diamond Fork Junior High, "Radon Statistics: 1 Out of 15 Homes."
- **Runner-Up:** Candace Brown (age 14), Centennial Middle School, "Is Radon in Your Future?"

As the first-place winner of the national contest, Williams' will receive an award plaque and gift card in the amount of \$1,000. Other national winners will also receive an award plaque and gift cards in the amount of \$400. National winners' posters will be reproduced and distributed nationwide to promote radon awareness, and can be viewed online at sosradon.org/poster-contest/2014-poster-contest-winners.

In October 2013, the DRC Indoor Radon Program sponsored a statewide radon poster contest with more than 700 entries submitted from Utah students, ages 9-14. Three posters were selected as the top entries:

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- **First-place:** Ali MaCall Jenkins (age 12), Mapleton Junior High, “Stop Radon Before it Stops You or Someone You Love!”
- **Second-place:** Megan Morrin (age 10), Alpine Elementary, “Times Up! Check for Radon”
- **Third-place:** Joseph Hardin (age 14), Aspire Scholar Academy-Homeschool Co-op, “Solve the Puzzle, Fit the Pieces Together”

All Utah winners, both state and national, will be recognized by Governor Herbert at a special ceremony in early 2014. Winning posters can be viewed online at www.radon.utah.gov.

The DRC’s Indoor Radon Program helps to reduce the level of indoor radon in Utah buildings and residences. DRC radon staff provides education through public outreach to community groups, schools, real estate professionals, builders, as well as individualized assistance to homeowners and public agencies concerning all aspects of the indoor radon hazard problem.

More information about radon test kits, radon measurement providers and radon mitigators is available at www.radon.utah.gov, or by calling the Utah radon information hotline at 1-800-458-0145.

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About DEQ

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah’s air, land and water. For more information, visit www.deq.utah.gov, follow DEQ on Facebook ([newseq](#)) and Twitter ([@UTDEQ](#)), or call 1-800-458-0145.