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## Youth Imagine the Future festival winners announced

The winners of the inaugural Youth Imagine the Future festival were announced Sunday evening at Kingston's Window Art Gallery.

The students were tasked with looking at positive solutions to the climate crisis through a piece of art or through a story.

Winning top prize — a \$500 GIC from Kingston Community Credit Union — in the writing category was Benji Savage of Kingston Secondary School for the story “Solarcraft.”

First place in the art category, meanwhile, went to Jasper Wicke

of Calvin Park Public School for a three-dimensional sculpture titled “Looking Forward.” Wicke also won a \$500 GIC.

The second- and third-place finishers in the art category were Alastair Macdonald, also from Calvin Park, for “Alternatives to the Anthropocene,” while Juniper Wicke, who's homeschooled, won for “Snapdragon School.” Finishing fourth and fifth were Matt Hennessey of Sydenham High School and Rowan Wicke.

Madeline Kerr and Liam Lomox, both of Calvin Park, tied for second

place in the writing category for their stories “Finding Cris” and “Saplings.” Finishing in fourth and fifth place were Griffin Wicke of Loyalist Collegiate and Vocational Institute and Shayon Majumdar and Rufus Hood of Calvin Park.

“The depth of their thinking, the quality of their writing and art has been just astonishing,” festival director and “solarpunk” author Jerri Jerreat stated in a Monday news release announcing the winners. “We were hoping for some good ideas. These were brilliant.”

The top 10 writers will be at the Indigo store at the Cataraqui Centre Saturday afternoon at 5 to read their stories in person, and those stories will also be posted at [youth-imaginethefuture.com](http://youth-imaginethefuture.com).

*The Whig-Standard*

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