



Maddie Durham's artwork is featured in Oregon agriculture calendar.

## Sisters student's art celebrated at State Fair

Maddie Durham, a third-grader at Sisters Elementary School, was honored during a reception held at the Oregon State Fair along with 12 other students on August 25. Maddie's artwork was selected from 2,100 entries submitted to the AITC Calendar Art Contest, sponsored by Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (AITC). The AITC Calendar Art Contest showcases Oregon's diverse agricultural and natural-resource commodities.

This year, artwork was submitted by students kindergarten through sixth grade across the state in public, private, charter and homeschool education systems. The entries received celebrated Oregon's diverse agriculture with artwork depicting a wide variety of Oregon's 220 agricultural commodities.

Maddie's artwork featured a wheat field being combined and can be viewed on the July page of the calendar. In describing her artwork, Maddie said, "I choose to draw a combine in a wheat field with blue skies, the sun shining bright and one lonely cloud because of a field trip where I learned all about wheat fields and Oregon agriculture." A highlight of the experience that prompted her artwork was being able to sit in the combine on the field trip.

Maddie also said "I would like to thank Ms. Kanzig for informing me about the coloring contest and taking me on an agriculture field trip!"

"The calendar contest is a great project for teachers and students. It gives them an opportunity to teach and discuss about the bounty and beauty of Oregon agriculture and incorporate art into their classrooms," said Jessica Jansen, AITC executive director. Each month in the calendar features one of the winning students' art, and each day of the year has a fact about agriculture.

The 13 students selected to be featured in our 2019-2020 calendar received a \$50 award and certificate. The winning artwork will be displayed at the Oregon State Fair, which runs through Labor Day in Salem. Calendars are free to Oregon teachers, and can be ordered for just \$4 at [www.oregonaitc.org/shop](http://www.oregonaitc.org/shop).

### LETTERS

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Which leads to a hopeful (if ironic) point: We can't reduce racism (and several other isms that we may care about), if we don't acknowledge it. The very upfront and obvious nature of its expression by some of our leaders and SOME of their happy followers, makes it easier to see, discuss, and confront. There is an argument to be made that the more blatant the hate, the more repugnant it appears, the greater the pain, and the greater the backlash against it will be.

Laura West

To the Editor:

I was glad to see the recent letter from one of your readers that relieved me entirely of my worry about racism in America.

I was enriched to find out just how successful African Americans are. I am glad to know they aren't victimized by racism and are among our most highly recognized citizens. I will from now on discount all the reporting we get about the victims of racism and violence; I will stop considering the nonsense about the inequities of wealth in our society. And I will continue to appreciate the fact of so many people of color who fill our political spectrum.

These fake presentations about suffering poor of color — how good to know there's no truth about racism in any of that so-called news, thrust upon us by Dems. Weren't they

Democrats, all those Southerners, who fought so hard to protect their slaves from White Northern Republicans? They may have been slaveholders, but certainly not racist.

Richard Lyons

To the Editor:

When is enough, enough?

The proposed construction of a Dollar General Store in Sisters is absolutely appalling. There already are 15,000 stores all over the country. Do you think they care about the quietness, charm, serenity or the quality of life of the city of Sisters and those who live here? Not on your life!

Did you notice that not one of the participants in this project is from this area? They are from Eugene, Scottsdale, Arizona and St. Louis, Missouri. Do you think they will have our best interest in mind?

If that 9,100-square-foot building is allowed to be built next to Bi-Mart, try to imagine what the increased traffic will do to the already congested area. With the traffic from all the surrounding businesses, the residents of The Pines and Hayden Homes trying to enter the roundabout at Highway 20 and Barclay Drive, it will be a total nightmare. It will affect traffic coming from all directions.

It is time for the Sisters Planning Commission to step up and consider what is best for the citizens and businesses of Sisters.

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