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News Release: Two Students Win Spectacular Art Contests

Storm Lake, Iowa (May 31, 2023) – The Star Spangled Spectacular’s annual children’s art contest has selected Rooney Lah and Leo Rodriguez Hernandez as its “Three Cheers for 150 Years” 2023 winners.

Rooney Lah, a kindergartener from Ms. Hope Backman’s class, secured the prize for his coloring creation. Leo Rodriguez Hernandez, a 3rd grade student from Ms. Sara Eddie’s class, won for his patriotic artwork. Both attend Storm Lake Community Schools. The students won gift certificates to Storm Lake Candy Co. and the opportunity to participate in the SSS Big Parade on July 4, 2023.

2023 marks the first year the Star Spangled Spectacular children’s art contest has been extended from its typical poster/drawing contest to include younger grades with a coloring contest. An additional honorable mention award was also presented to one student from each class:

- TK: Pibi Donya
- Kindergarten: Carcia Clarence
- 1st Grade: Heidi Jacuinde
- 2nd Grade: Ximera Alexa Najerd
- 3rd Grade: Esther Snyder
- 4th Grade: Jovie Doebel

The competition is open to all Storm Lake students grades K-4. Early elementary students are eligible for the coloring contest, and elementary students are eligible for poster contest. Work was judged on creativity and use of this year’s theme: “Three Cheers for 150 Years.”

About the Star Spangled Spectacular

A favorite Northwest Iowa tradition, Storm Lake’s annual Star Spangled Spectacular celebrates Independence Day along the City’s beautiful shores. The family-friendly event is held July 3-4 and welcomes fresh entertainment and returning favorites such as The Big Parade, food and shopping vendors, a classic Car Cruise, the Ride-Run, fireworks, a Patriotic Ceremony, a Kiddie Parade, and more. Visit www.starspangledspectacular.net.

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