



OAKLAND COUNTY STUDENT A WINNER!

Artwork Chosen for 2012 Parenting Awareness Month Poster

The Annual Parenting Awareness Month (PAM) Poster Contest Has Produced Artwork for the official 2012 PAM Poster.

Christian Sedano is the Grand Prize Winner. His design will appear on thousands of posters and bookmarks throughout Michigan beginning in February 2012. He receives a \$100 prize. Christian is a senior at Holly High School. Holly High School Family and Consumer Sciences and Health Education Teacher Ms. Teri Chambers, a longtime champion of the PAM Poster Contest, has encouraged student participation for many years.

Focusing on the theme “Parenting is for a Lifetime,” over 150 Michigan individuals submitted artwork for the contest. The many creative entries made choosing the winning artwork by PAM’s Steering Committee both a joy and a challenge. Ten other winners received awards for placing first or second in their categories. See attached list. The 2012 PAM Poster Contest winning artwork can be viewed online at www.preventionnetwork.org/parenting-awareness.aspx.

Parenting Awareness Michigan/Parenting Awareness Month, an initiative unique to our state, is organized to celebrate people who are raising children and to achieve the following:

- Draw public attention to the importance of effective parenting across the lifespan.
- Promote education and resources for developing parenting skills.
- Raise awareness that effective parenting is a key factor in alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention.
- Encourage and assist in the development of parent networks.
- Promote Parenting Awareness Month with locally planned events during March, and programs and activities throughout the year focused on parenting.

A volunteer steering committee, representing statewide participation, provides year around guidance for the Parenting Awareness Michigan initiative. PAM is coordinated out of Prevention Network, Michigan’s network to support and expand community substance abuse prevention.

PAM has been in existence for over 18 years! In 1993, the Michigan Legislature declared March as Parenting Awareness Month. Each year Michigan’s Governor issues an Executive Declaration in observance of March as Parenting Awareness Month. **During March and beyond,** thousands of posters and matching bookmarks appear in schools, libraries, work sites, medical offices, faith centers, and community centers.

Communities throughout the state will celebrate Parenting Awareness Month 2012 with parenting fairs, conferences, and a variety of activities for parents and families. Each year advocates and educators use the PAM initiative to raise awareness about the education and support available locally to help parents and caregivers in their important role of raising children.

PAM parenting packets, posters, matching bookmarks, and technical assistance are available to assist community involvement in the PAM initiative. Assistance and materials are provided through Prevention Network, 800-968-4968, pamcampaign@preventionnetwork.org, and www.preventionnetwork.org/parenting-awareness.aspx.