Ten Students are Top Three in State F.A.M.E. Winners

The ten University School TV and film production students competing in the final rounds of the prestigious Jim Harbin media festival received their final placement awards.

The winners announced at the F.A.M.E. conference in Orlando last weekend are:

- Victoria Kohl & 2011 graduate Maury Neipris: 2nd – PSA
- Blake Egozi, Elijah Clarke & Connor Pestrichelli: 3rd – Music Video
- Jared March & Victoria Kohl: 3rd – Comedy
- Brandon Berman, Josh Rubinton, Victoria Kohl, Jordan Kulla, & Joshua Masimore: 2nd – Drama

“Probably the most remarkable thing is that eight of the ten finalists accomplished this honor as only 10th graders.” said University School teacher Frank Mullin. “Most of the competitors are seniors.”

The state-wide competition for outstanding media productions actually began last October when students chose their categories and began work on pieces that adhered to strict guidelines. Mullin commented that the requirements and deadlines provided a college preparatory experience in addition to an exercise in self-expression, communication and media presentation. The three rounds of judging continued after graduation and culminated with this month’s F.A.M.E. (Florida Association for Media in Education) conference.

In addition to participating in workshops, three University School students completed in an onsite contest where high school students from across the state were assigned a topic and given five hours to storyboard, edit and produce a film. University School’s Josh Masimore, Josh Rubinton & Conner Pestrichelli captured first place in this onsite competition.

“Students work on pieces that are important to them”, Mullin said. “TV allows students to share their thoughts and perspectives in creative manners. [At the same time], students master time management and collaboration – both essential 21st century skills.”

For photos from the F.A.M.E. conference, go to the Upper School Album on University School’s Facebook Fan page, or University School’s online Media Gallery.