2015 Nancy Welch Winners

First Place
Thomas Dreitlein, Jeff Creed, Chrysalis Terrado, Kyle Schneider, Lauren Martinek, Scott Dorante

The Intercollegiate Poetry Slam Nominated by Bianca McGraw

The “Intercollegiate Poetry Slam” was an interactive and engaging event that was designed to bring together the literary communities of four local colleges for a night of excitement, competition and expression. This event was designed to be a late night program with over 250 people attending the event from UB, Buffalo State and St. Bonaventure University. A “poetry slam” is a competition at which poets recite their original pieces. Each poem is judged using a points system by members of the audience. Each poem is judged on content, performance and memorization. Poems performed are typically attention grabbing, engaging, and easier to understand than other forms of poetry.

Second Place
Micah Oliver, Milani Machicote, Angelise Vargas, Laketta Jackson, Isaiah Davis, Khadeisha Richards, Jovon Morgan, Leslie Njoku

African Diaspora Project Nominated by Ashley Goodwin

The main objective of African Diaspora Project was to bring awareness and promote diversity about the African Diaspora. The African Diaspora encompasses all the individuals around the world who have been displaced specifically due to the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Within the African Diaspora there is a multitude of languages, and various cultures spanning from North American, South America, Europe, the Caribbean, The Middle East, and Asia. The program was to celebrate the very many cultures and allow for other individuals to be exposed to these cultures. The first program consisted of Game Night/Trivia where we quizzed residents on how familiar they were with famous people that have African ancestry. The second day was the Diaspora Discussion – have honest, open and a meaningful conversation about culture and what it means to be a descendant from Africa. The third program was the Diaspora Bazaar which consisted of many performances and a reception.

Third Place
Jill Swanson

Jill’s Birthday Party Nominated by Timothy Gray

“Jill’s Birthday Party” was a program to educate residents of the Governors Complex about alcohol awareness and the dangers of underage drinking. Residents learned about specific measurements of alcohol and the effects it has on the body as well as tips to stay safe when consuming alcohol. The program was designed as a birthday party and residents had fun with music, dancing and games but also learned about blood alcohol contents, dangers of drinking too much, signs of alcohol poisoning and were given resources to utilize if alcohol poisoning does exist. Over 130 students attended the program.
Third Place
Ronald (Aaron) Bola

Mock Admissions Committee Nominated by Julie Gorman

“Mock Admissions Committee” gave residents who are pre-health majors to become an admissions committee of a pharmacy school. The student created profiles of several different applicants to pharmacy school and the residents got to debate over who would be admitted to the school, showing them what kinds of things the health related schools such as pharmacy, nursing, medical and dental are looking for when choosing who will be admitted. The residents were required to work in teams and collaborate to come up with their answers.