

NEWS RELEASE  
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## STEM Santa Fe announces the Fall 2017 Expanding Your Horizons Essay Contest Winners

STEM Santa Fe is pleased to announce the essay contest winners from the 2017 Expanding Your Horizons Conference. The participants wrote their essays after the conference and reflected upon how the conference impacted and benefited them in their academic and personal life. Five finalists were chosen and the top three winners are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Elaine Mitchell (6<sup>th</sup> grade, homeschooled)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Alyssa Trujillo-Duran (8<sup>th</sup> grade, St. Michael's High School)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kiana Hoehne (5<sup>th</sup> grade, Eldorado Community School)

Honorable Mentions were awarded to the following young girls:  
Cheyenne Brown (7<sup>th</sup> grade, Milagro Middle School)  
Shaunti Sitonik (5<sup>th</sup> grade, Sweeney Elementary)

The girls celebrated their accomplishments with their families at the home of Dr. Lina Germann on December 30, 2017 and prizes were awarded to each of the girls. Many thanks to the donors of some of the prizes: Malouf on the Plaza and Los Alamos Women in Science.

*STEM Santa Fe advocates for, develops, and provides STEM programming, mentoring, and resources for all youth, especially under-presented groups in STEM, to realize their potential and expand their opportunities in a dynamic world. STEM Santa Fe's 2017 Expanding Your Horizons Conference hosted 165 fifth through eighth grade girls. This conference featured 16 workshops, a STEM and college careers fair, and a keynote address by Jessica Perea Houston, associate professor in the Chemical and Materials Engineering department at New Mexico State University.*

For more information, please visit their website: [www.stemsantafe.org](http://www.stemsantafe.org)