

# BUILDING & Battling

A quarterly publication of the



Spring 2021 - Vol. 33, Issue 3

All dates are tentative and subject to cancellation due to COVID-19 restrictions

**AACS Youth Legislative Training Conference**  
July 5-9

**BCSO Board of Directors' Mtg**  
August 5  
10 a.m.  
Mansfield

**AACS National Legislative Conference**  
September 6-10  
Washington, D.C.

A full, downloadable 2-year calendar of events is available on our website.

## CONNECT WITH US!



[www.bcsoschools.org](http://www.bcsoschools.org)

## BCSO continues stand against state licensing of church ministries

"BCSO is a tool in the hands of local churches to be salt and light"

Keith Hamblen, BCSO Executive Director

With the "Equality Act" being pushed on the national level, with its underlying thinking permeating the culture, there is no less need for a BCSO today than in the days of its founding, when the "minimum standards" battles raged. The Lord gave a great victory then, and He has continued to give repeated civic victories over the years since, as God's people have stood up and spoken out! "Minimum standards" thinking still is with us—that it is the state's jurisdiction to oversee education. This statist thinking needs continued resisting! It needs resisted on the state and national levels (including the Ohio and US Departments of Education), as well as in our local communities and

even churches, as "social justice" thinking is at work even there, seeking to conform us to this world. BCSO is a tool in the hands of local churches to be salt and light, especially on the state and national levels, where corporate ("body of Christ") salt and light are needed so desperately.

The major social institutions lockstep in seeking to conform Christians to the current spirit of the age, which has as some of its current flags the redefined terms of social justice, diversity, and equality. Consider the consolidated (group) voice of big tech, big business, big

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**"If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds and instill into them just principles, we are then engraving that upon tablets which no time will efface, but will brighten and brighten to all eternity."**

~ Daniel Webster



# EVENT REPORT: 2020 Creative Writing Contest results

by Jeremy Bickelhaupt, *Building & Battling* editor

Each year, BCSO students in grades 4-8 are encouraged to participate in this national contest. Students may submit either an original poem or short story. Here are the 2021 BCSO winners as selected by the American Association of Christian Schools:

## ELEMENTARY:

Short Story: KaraLynn Leszkowicz (5), Heritage Christian School (Findlay, OH).

Poetry: Otto Bickelhaupt (5), Ottawa County Christian Academy (Oak Harbor, OH)

## JUNIOR HIGH:

Short Story: Savannah Goodman (8), Heritage Christian School (Brooklyn, OH).

Poetry: Raela Zapsic (7), Heritage Christian School (Brooklyn, OH) .



# EVENT updates: 2021 Jr/Sr Fine Arts Competition

Results from March 11-12

Submitted by Paul Shaver, BCSO Fine Arts Director

The 2021 BCSO Fine Arts competition this year was a whole lot different than in the past due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This year, pictures were taken of art projects and sent to judges. For performance based events, videos were recorded and uploaded to YouTube as an unlisted video, which the judges were able to access and judge. All completed judging forms were emailed, printed, tallied, and entered into a spreadsheet designed to record and tally points. Even the awards assembly was different. Actually, the awards assembly consisted of a PowerPoint displaying the names of the winners along with pictures of the first place project winners. Overall, there were some challenges, but the Lord enabled us to overcome them and put on a successful competition.

Competing this year were: Carroll County Christian Academy, Fayette Christian School, Heritage Christian School (Brooklyn), Heritage Christian School (Findlay), Licking County Christian Academy, Lima Christian Academy, Temple Christian Academy (Fremont), Temple Christian School, Victory Christian School, Wayside Christian School, and Zanesville Christian

School. Just over two hundred fifty students were involved in the newfangled competition.

After all the judging forms were tallied, Heritage Christian School from Findlay earned the Outstanding School Total Points (2,568 points), while Zanesville Christian School earned the Outstanding School Highest Average (180.17 points per student). AnnaGrace Leszkowicz of Heritage Christian in Findlay was named the outstanding female competitor (474 points) while Truett Howell of Zanesville Christian was named the outstanding male competitor (670 points).

Thank you to each person who helped to make the competition a success. Special thanks go to Eric Leszkowicz for all his work in the art division. A special thank you also goes to the office staff for their labors.

All results can be viewed online  
[www.bcsoschools.org/fine-arts.html](http://www.bcsoschools.org/fine-arts.html).

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# BCSO students place at national competition



By Paul Shaver,  
BCSO Fine Arts Director

Students from Buckeye Christian School Organization competed in the annual American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS) National Competition, which was held virtually this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Bob Jones University, a Christian liberal arts university in Greenville, SC, facilitated the virtual event.

Approximately 1,450 students from 28 states participated in the AACCS National Competition, having captured top honors in their state contests. The students, representing over 150 Christian high schools, competed in 72 categories in the five basic areas of Bible, music, speech, art, and academics.

The Bible competition included preaching and teaching. Academic competition included academic

testing in fifteen subjects, composition, and spelling. Vocal and instrumental music students challenged each other in eight solo and ten group competitions. Speech contestants participated in eleven different categories, such as dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, extemporaneous speaking, original oratory, and acting. Art students submitted art for seventeen different categories, such as sculpture, drawing, painting, printmaking, digital media, mixed media, woodworking, and photography.

The virtual event, judged by the faculty of Bob Jones University, concluded with a live-streamed awards ceremony, virtual campus tour, and master classes that provided contestants with an opportunity to learn tips and insights from competition judges.

The BCSO winners are listed below:



## National Fine Arts Competition - Individual Results

<b>AnnaGrace Leszkowicz</b>	<b>Heritage (Findlay)</b>	<b>Oral Interpretation of Poetry</b>	<b>3rd</b>
<b>Andrew Klemenc</b>	<b>Heritage (Findlay)</b>	<b>Landscapes &amp; Architecture Photography</b>	<b>1st</b>
<b>Truett Howell</b>	<b>Zanesville</b>	<b>People and Animal Photography</b>	<b>1st</b>
<b>Truett Howell</b>	<b>Zanesville</b>	<b>Old Testament Bible Knowledge</b>	<b>1st</b>
<b>Truett Howell</b>	<b>Zanesville</b>	<b>New Testament Bible Knowledge</b>	<b>1st</b>
<b>Zachary Conklin</b>	<b>Temple (Fremont)</b>	<b>World History/Geography</b>	<b>3rd</b>



[www.glcec.net](http://www.glcec.net)

# Staffing needs for 2021-2022

Several BCSO member schools are looking to fill teaching vacancies for this fall.

**Licking County Christian Academy** is currently seeking a first- and second-grade combination teacher.

**Heritage Christian School** (Brooklyn) is seeking a first-grade teacher.

**Ottawa County Christian Academy** is also seeking a lower elementary teacher as well as a secondary history and science teacher.

Those interested in applying for any of the above-mentioned vacancies should contact individual

schools. School contact information can be found online at [bcsoschools.org/member-schools.html](https://bcsoschools.org/member-schools.html).

The BCSO is also looking to fill the role of **National Legislative Director**, a position formerly held by Pastor Gary Click. Click won Ohio's 88<sup>th</sup> district house seat and resigned the BCSO position. This role is vital as it acts as a liaison between our organization and members of the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C.

More information and details regarding these BCSO roles can be obtained by emailing Executive Director, Keith Hamblen at [keithhamblen@gmail.com](mailto:keithhamblen@gmail.com).

From 'Licensing' on pg 1

media, Hollywood, state primary-secondary-preschool-higher education, and college (NCAA) and professional sports (NBA-NFL-MSL-MLB). Is this not a contemporary resurfacing of II Chronicles 18:5-13, where the four hundred false prophets spoke with one voice to Ahab and Jehoshaphat, saying, "Go up," while the one prophet of God (Micaiah) said, "Don't!"—and Micaiah paid for it (as we continue to pay for our schools and state schools, in case anybody missed the subtlety here)! The spirit of the age seduces the institutions of the age to speak with one voice!

BCSO is composed exclusively of "non-chartered, non-tax supported" (NCNT) schools. The state uses "charter" and "license" interchangeably, and a charter is a license which is a permission to operate. The battles look different today, but there is nothing new under the sun (only God can truly say, "I make a new thing"! Isaiah 43:19) We continue to tell the state that we are happy to work together with the God-ordained institution of the state, but we are not asking the state's permission to teach our children. We see a big difference between notifying (non-chartered) and asking permission (chartered).



Perhaps you have followed the ongoing debates regarding "critical race theory" and "black lives matter" (easily confused with the organization BLM). Again we remember Ecclesiastes 1:9 that declares that "there is nothing new under the sun," as the god of this world continues to percolate old ideas with different wording for a new and seductive cover. These are vain philosophies seeking to replace God with man who continues to desire to "be as God" (Genesis 3; Psalm 2:1-3; Colossians 2:8—Christians are told to beware of being spoiled by vain philosophy).

God's way in these last days is the local church, and by God's grace, BCSO continues to be a wonderful and practical tool in the hands of God-fearing local assemblies who demonstrate a continuing ability to work together even where there are different personalities and cultures, as different as High Street Christian and Licking County Christian Academies (or we could say Franklin and Licking counties)! BCSO's current "salt and light" influence is the passing of some kind of tuition tax credit legislation which encourages pre-tax dollars to be directed to church-operated schools—remember to pray that this will happen.

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