



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harlem fifth-grader wins Pilot Club essay contest

More than 100 fifth grade students in Goose Creek CISD entered the annual Pilot Club of Baytown's patriotic essay contest.

The theme for the essays was: "What Patriotism Means to Me."

This year's winners are:

- First Place** Rocio Barragan of Harlem Elementary. She is the student of Annette Marcus.
- Second Place** Alexis Connealy of De Zavala Elementary. She is the student of Jennifer Wade.
- Third Place** Aaron Vizcarra of Crockett Elementary. He is the student of Cheryl Roeschen.

The essay contest was open to all 5th grade students.

Members of the Pilot Club read and judged the essays.

The winners were honored during the Pilot Club's March meeting at Goose Creek Country Club.

Winning students, parents and teachers were treated to lunch. Following lunch, the winners read their essays

In Rocio's winning essay, he asks what is patriotism?

"The dictionary entry of patriotism is, love and support for one's country. But to me that is not enough to describe patriotism. To me patriotism is not only love and support for our country. To me it is devotion, caring for, respecting, and helping the community of our country," Rocio wrote.



Harlem Elementary School fifth-grader Rocio Barragan won the annual Pilot Club of Baytown's patriotic essay contest. Attending the award ceremony, from left, were Erica Navajar, Harlem reading facilitator, Harlem Principal Michael Wahl, Rocio, and Anne Marcus, Rocio's ELA teacher.

Read the entire essay [here](#).

"Rocio Barragan is an outstanding student. English is her second language, so to win first place in a contest requiring a 500- to 700-word essay is an awesome accomplishment," said Rocio's teacher Annette Marcus. "I am so proud of her. Rocio's honor should encourage other LEP students, that hard work will bring rewards."

For Marcus, Rocio is the eighth student to win the annual Pilot Club essay contest in seven years. Last year, two of Marcus' students placed first and second in the essay contest.

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