

## Kids Are Kind to Animals

### **American Humane announces the winners of its 2008 Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest.**

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In conjunction with Be Kind to Animals Week, the American Humane Association announced the winners of its 2008 Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest. Ian Cahr of Chicago, Ill., is the grand-prize winner in the age 6-12 category, and Kristen Uyeoka of Aiea, Hawaii, is the grand-prize winner in the age 13-17 category. Both winners will receive \$2,000, plus an American Humane prize package.

Eight-year-old Ian Cahr started Ian's Bead Company after earning \$12 selling beaded jewelry from a stand in front of a friend's house. He donated the original proceeds to New Leash on Life, a dog rescue organization in Chicago, then decided to see if he could earn more. Since then, Ian has enlisted the help of more than 30 children to help make and sell jewelry, cards, key chains, hair accessories and more. The kids donate 100 percent of their profits to the shelter and have raised more than \$10,000 thus far.

Kristen Uyeoka, 17 years old, believes in the human-animal bond and the humane treatment of animals. To promote those beliefs, she began a project to teach preschool children how to properly treat and care for companion animals. Working with the Hawaiian Humane Society's education department and preschool teachers and students at Honwanji Mission School, Kristen created a series of interactive lessons plans that teach children how to responsibly care for animals and why animals are important in people's lives.

American Humane also selected two runners-up in each age category. Runners-up in the age 6-12 category are 12-year-old Mary Lace of Wayne, Ill., and 10-year-old Cady Arruda of Westport, Mass. Runners-up in the age 13-17 category are 17-year-old Nick Beaven of Dearborn Heights, Mich., and 17-year-old Heidi Johnson of Bellingham, Wash. Each runner-up will receive \$750 and an American Humane prize package.

For more information about the 2008 Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest and to learn more about the winners, visit the American Humane website.