



**5/29/18 UPDATED
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STUDENTS**

News release

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Everett students earn top awards in Spanish literacy contest

Students from Everett and Jackson high schools recognized at state competition



L-R Carlos Rodriguez, Margarita Hurtado, Jocelyn Ramirez

Everett High School students Jocelyn Ramirez and Carlos Rodriguez, **and Henry M. Jackson High School students June Chang and Jared Kerber** earn top awards in the 20th annual 'Yo escribo en Español' literacy contest.

This year's topic was "celebrating the diversity and richness of our culture" and students from 110 schools statewide participated and submitted 520 essays.

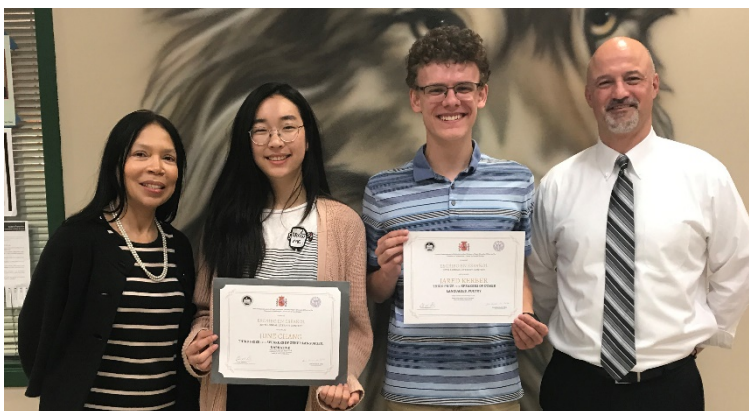
Jocelyn Ramirez, a senior AP Spanish Literature student, earned first place in the category of poetry as a Spanish speaker. Carlos Rodriguez, a sophomore AP Spanish language student, earned honorable mention for his narrative essay in the category Spanish speakers.

"I'm so proud of their work," shared Margarita Hurtado, AP Spanish teacher at Everett High School. "This is the eighth consecutive year my students have earned awards!"

Jocelyn Ramirez was very excited, "I've never got a prize for writing poetry and this was a beautiful feeling and experience."

Both students shared they are very thankful for their parents who made all the sacrifices to change their lives. Both are dreaming of becoming professionals to honor them.

Jackson High seniors June Chang and Jared Kerber, both AP Spanish and Language Culture students, placed in their categories. June placed third in her narrative essay in the category of Spanish speakers and Jared Kerber placed third in poetry as a Spanish speaker.



L-R Ivett Thompson, June Chang, Jared Kerber, Principal Dave Peters

"This is the second year my AP Spanish students have placed and received top awards in this highly competitive writing contest statewide," shared Ivett Thompson, AP Spanish teacher at Jackson High School. "I'm so proud we're able to honor them for their hard work."

The contest is sponsored by the [Center for Spanish Studies - Seattle, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction \(OSPI\)](#), the [University of Washington](#) and the [Education Office of Spain - USA](#).

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