

# ISBA STUDENT

# Poetry CONTEST

## 12th Grade Winner

*Karissa Newell, Renaissance High School, West Ada School District*

### *“Watchful Eyes”*

*At first it was seen as curiosity,  
The chance that man could shut down the world.  
All eyes watched him from day one.  
All eyes feared him from day two.  
All eyes hide from him from day three.  
Then it was seen as growth.  
The chance to learn something new while hiding isolated.  
The chance to renew your soul and heart while watching  
from a distance.  
Then it was seen as a test of discipline,  
teaching yourself advanced mathematics, and how to  
properly write a poem.  
It was said to be fun.  
To have all the time in the world but no outlet.  
But all things have their limits.  
Then it was seen as a hardship.  
Seeking for a way to connect.  
Finding holes in life that were not there before.  
Working from a mundane, deathly quite blank wall.  
With nothing but routine keeping you feeling alive.  
All eyes watched him from day one.  
All eyes feared him from day two.  
All eyes hide from him from day three.*

*Monotonous life had caught our heels and dragged us  
down to him.  
His laugh mocked us with distressed calls from family.  
As he came ever so closer to our good home,  
he shattered the frame of our reality.  
Missed opportunities flooded our new existence.  
Bitter tongues pierced our neighbors heart.  
Hurting souls wept.  
Stolen Livelihood.  
Deselected life followed his path in shame.  
Distance between conjoined spirits powerlessly split.  
Feeble knees failed to continue the shackled journey.  
He swept the depths of our life with a darkness  
unconceivable.  
Swollen, beaten, battered, bruised we marched on with his  
ideal version of life.  
As he marched our streets our curiosity soon became fear.  
All eyes watched him from day one.  
All eyes feared him from day two.  
All eyes hide from him from day three.*