



## THE BIRCHWOOD SCHOOL PRESS RELEASE

June 5, 2011

Contact: Cindy McNaughton, 216-251-2321

### State Power of the Pen Winners

Cleveland-On May 27<sup>th</sup> several Birchwood students traveled to Wooster, Ohio, to compete in the twenty-seventh Annual Power of the Pen State Competition for Young Writers. **Trevor L, Hannah Y, Joan C, Katelyn V, and Naomi W** placed fourth as a team and individually **Naomi W** received 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and **Katelyn V** placed 7<sup>th</sup> over all seventh grade.

The competitors at the college of Wooster comprised of writers from twenty-eight District and twelve Regional winners held throughout the State of Ohio. Approximately 700 writers from 275 schools in Ohio participated in the all-day writing event. From the district level on, Power of the Pen works with 500 middle schools throughout Ohio and generates 25,000 pieces of writing annually.

At each level students are given prompts from which to showcase their creativity and excellence in writing. They compete in three 35-minute writing rounds and some are chosen for a “Power Round,” where they vie for trophies, cash prizes, and college scholarships. Only 50% of the 700 of the state qualifiers were chosen for the “Power Round” this year. Among those chosen were **Trevor, Katelyn, and Naomi**.

“That our small school has five state qualifiers, let alone placing fourth among all the schools in the 82 Ohio counties is certainly noteworthy,” **Lorraine Tzeng** commented. Since the Power of the Pen started, Birchwood has consistently had representatives at the state competition.



###

**The Birchwood School** is a private, coeducational school in Cleveland, Ohio. Founded in 1984, Birchwood serves students in kindergarten through grade 8. Birchwood's mission is to provide an educational setting where challenging academics build solid work habits, an achievement culture nurtures healthy attitudes, and a caring environment forges social responsibility.

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