



NEWS RELEASE

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K of C Museum Announces Christmas Tree Festival Award Winners *Trumbull's St. Catherine of Siena School takes top tree honors*

(NEW HAVEN, Conn.) — The Knights of Columbus Museum has announced the prize winners in its 10th Annual Christmas Tree Festival. St. Catherine of Siena School, a Catholic (K-8) Grammar School from Trumbull, Conn., earned First Place for its Christmas Tree decorations.

Each year, approximately two dozen Connecticut elementary schools participate in the Christmas Tree Festival. A class from each school prepares decorations for a Christmas Tree in its art curriculum. The decorations' theme complements the Museum's annual Christmas crèche exhibit.

This year's Nativity scenes hail from 22 countries across the Asian continent. More than 100 crèches are on display. Many of the schools selected a particular Asian country as the focus of their decorations.

St. Bernadette School in New Haven received second-place honors and St. Mark School in Stratford took third prize. Honorable mention went to St. Joseph School in Danbury and St. Thomas Aquinas School in Fairfield.

Winners receive a donation from the museum for educational supplies or equipment.

"The Christmas Tree Festival is a distinctive exhibit," said Museum Director Larry Sowinski. "Each year, it showcases the knowledge and talents of our local schoolchildren and their teachers. It also unites us in a faith we hold in common with people clear across the world."

The Knights of Columbus Museum is located at 1 State Street in New Haven. Admission and parking are free. The Museum is open from 10-5 daily for the duration of the Christmas exhibit (except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day). For more information, call 203-865-0400 or visit kofcmuseum.org.

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