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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Balboa Park Summer Camp Programs Celebrate Essay Contest Winners**  
*Kids win prizes for writing about their favorite summer camps in Balboa Park*

On Thursday, May 17, a few dozen children will become ‘happy campers’ as museum educators, children, families, and school teachers gather to celebrate the winners of the annual summer camp essay contest sponsored by the **Balboa Park Educator’s Council** (BPEC). The contest was launched by this collaborative group in April to bring awareness of the myriad of wonderful Balboa Park summer camp offerings to a wider audience of educators and children in the schools. The camp brochures and cash prizes were funded by the **Friends of Balboa Park** and the **Balboa Park Kiwanis Club**. Park Institutions sponsored camp-themed gifts and free camp weeks to the top prize winners. The awards ceremony and celebration will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Zoo’s Rondavel Room in Balboa Park.

Fifth grade school teacher Stephen Alcorn of nearby Golden Hill Elementary noted “My kids were really excited about responding to the creative and fun essay questions from the different park camps. This was an excellent opportunity for them to experience summer camp in Balboa Park.” Participating institutions include Spanish Village Art Center, the Model Railroad Museum, Museum of Man, San Diego Museum of Art, Natural History Museum, San Diego Zoo, Reuben H. Fleet, Morley Field Kidz Kampz, Museum of Photographic Arts, Air & Space Museum, and the Chess Camp.

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For more information about [the Essay Contest Awards Ceremony or summer camp programs in Balboa Park](#), contact the Friends of Balboa Park office at 619-232-2282 or email [info@fobp.info](mailto:info@fobp.info).

Founded in 1999, the mission of the Friends of Balboa Park is to preserve Balboa Park’s legacy for future generations through park-wide projects.