



Carmel Christkindlmarkt 10 Carter Green Carmel, IN

## ***MEDIA ADVISORY***

Date: October 31, 2022

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## **Carmel Christkindlmarkt Announces 2022 Christkind Essay Contest Winners**



*2022 Christkind award ceremony participants, left to right: Jacob Reynolds, Dan Klemkosky, Chris Weiss, Susan Kagiliery, Michelle Dyas, third-place winner Beatrice Dyas, first-place winner and 2022 Christkind Megan Munson, Mary Munson, Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard, Sam Oliphant, Kirsten Tilev, Maria Murphy, Jenise C. Jeffers, and Sandi Richardson.*

CARMEL, Ind. (Oct. 31, 2022) – After reviewing many applications for the role of the 2022 Carmel Christkindlmarkt Christkind, the selection committee has decided on the winners. This essay contest was sponsored by Wallington Asset Management.

The first-place winner and recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship is Megan Munson, Carmel High School, Class of 2026.

Munson is currently enrolled in German II at Carmel High School. She traveled to Germany last summer, where she was able to practice speaking the language. She enjoys German culture here in Indiana by visiting the Carmel Christkindlmarkt and the Heidelberg Haus.

The second-place winner and recipient of the \$500 scholarship is Haley Hickman, Terre Haute North High School, Class of 2025.

Hickman takes German II at Terre Haute North High School. She has fond memories of the ten months when her family hosted a German exchange student in their home. She learned so much about German Christmas culture during that time, which impacts her family's Christmas traditions to this day.

The third-place winner and recipient of the \$250 scholarship is Beatrice Violet Dyas, Carmel High School, Class of 2024.

Dyas has four years of German language education and a deep appreciation of the language and culture. In 2021, she served as a volunteer at the Christkindlmarkt and knew she had to apply to be the Christkind. Dyas and her family visit the Market every year to celebrate the holiday season.

“The Christkind is a beloved tradition at the Market with deep roots in traditional Christkindlmarkts,” said Maria Murphy, CEO and Market Master of the Carmel Christkindlmarkt. “We are so excited to have Megan to fulfill the role this year in greeting guests, attending media events and spreading holiday cheer to all visitors to the Market.”

Visitors can meet the Christkind at the Market throughout the season, beginning on the Market's opening day, November 19.

**Background:** The Carmel Christkindlmarkt continued the Christkind essay contest for the fifth year in 2022. The essay contest has been sponsored all five years by Wallington Asset Management. This essay contest is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in the Carmel Christkindlmarkt, and to carry the honor of bringing a popular German tradition to Carmel, Indiana.

The Christkind is a well-known symbol of Christmas in German-speaking countries. As the tradition goes, the Christkind angel delivers Christmas presents and a Christmas tree to German children on Christmas Eve, without being seen.

In Germany, the Christkind starts the Christmas season by opening the famous Nürnberger Christkindlmarkt. The Carmel Christkindlmarkt Christkind shares Christmas cheer with guests throughout the Carmel Christkindlmarkt by welcoming visitors, giving candy and gifts, and taking photos

with Market-goers. The Carmel Christkindlmarkt Christkind will also participate in special events and media activities throughout the year.

**The Essay:** Christmas cuisine is an important tradition! Families, friends and communities in the Midwest and all throughout the world enjoy a variety of savory and sweet delights over the holiday season together. Write a 500-word true story of your favorite Christmas meal and how that meal positively changed the way you celebrate Christmas.

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**Don't miss the 2022 Carmel Christkindlmarkt**

*November 19 – December 30*

*Thursdays 4-9 p.m. / Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m.-9 p.m.*

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