

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Kids know how important it is to “Put the Brakes on Fatalities”**

Seven-year-old Brooklyn Green-Lawson of **Riverton**, nine-year-old Maelee Dunn of **Galena** and 12-year-old Thea Hetlinger of **Parsons** are the southeast Kansas winners in the 2016 Put the Brakes on Fatalities poster contest.

The Kansas Department of Transportation and the Kansas Highway Patrol will present each winner with a bicycle and helmet donated by Safe Kids Kansas at school assemblies this month. The assemblies will take place:

- Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2:35 p.m., Parsons Middle School, **Thea Hetlinger**;
- Wednesday, Oct. 26, 9:30 a.m., Riverton Elementary School, **Brooklyn Green-Lawson** and **Maelee Dunn**.

Green-Lawson is also a statewide poster contest winner in the 5-7 age category. In addition to the bike and helmet, she will receive a family hotel and entertainment package from Crowne Plaza-Kansas City and Prairiefire-Overland Park, a \$50 Visa card from the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas, and movie passes from AAA Kansas.

A total of 824 kids across Kansas ages 5 to 13 took the time to think about safety and participate in this year's contest. Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day (October 10) is a nationwide effort to increase roadway safety and reduce all traffic fatalities.

For more information go to [www.ksdot.org](http://www.ksdot.org) and click on the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day information.

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**NOTE:** Electronic copies of the kids' artwork are attached to this release.

This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> FL West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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