

Poetry Honorable Mention
“A Lovely Day” by Ayla Keene
Petoskey Middle School, 7th Grade

I sit on a plush blanket
under a tree
surrounded by grass,
the thin emerald pillars
salute the sun

A puppy sleeps peacefully beside me
silky golden fur caps his head
contrasting his tiny black nose

Soft rays of sun fall gently from the sky
landing on my feet
warming them with their gentle dance

The wind whistles in my ear
as my puppy turns over
in his sleep

Hush hush I whisper
leaning back against the tree
feeling the bark,
rough against my back
listening to the leaves,
a cloak of windchimes
their music soft as if only for my ears

Inhaling the sweet smell
of summer air,
I open my book and start to read

The tiny puppy wakes and
stretches only to curl up
falling back asleep in my lap

I smile and sigh
while taking in this
lovely day