

A male blue dasher dragonfly is shown in profile, perched on a purple flower. The dragonfly has a blue body, large blue eyes, and transparent wings with a dark network of veins. The background is a light green gradient.

DELAWARE DRAGONFLY PROJECT

RECOGNIZING THE BLUE DASHER AS THE STATE DRAGONFLY

AWARDS CEREMONY

JUNE 20, 2025

1 - 3 p.m.

**Delaware State University
Martin Luther King Jr. Student Center
2nd Floor Parlor
1200 N DuPont Hwy
Dover, Delaware 19901**

Male Blue Dasher, Blackbird State Forest, DE

ABOUT THE PROJECT



Male Blue Dasher, Lums Pond State Park, DE

Sponsored by Sen. Hansen in partnership with state agencies and community organizations, the State of Delaware Dragonfly Project provided students of all grade levels with a hands-on opportunity to engage with environmental science, civics, and the arts.

Hundreds of students made their case for which dragonfly species deserved designation as the official state dragonfly, and the **Blue Dasher** was selected as the winner through a voting period open to all Delaware students and teachers.



Female Blue Dasher, Summit Bridge, Middletown, DE

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

SENATOR STEPHANIE HANSEN

GUEST SPEAKERS

HON. CINDY MARTEN

SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. GREG PATTERSON

**SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

DR. MICHAEL C. MOORE

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

SARAH O'DONNELL

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CLOSING REMARKS

REP. SOPHIE PHILLIPS

ART CONTEST WINNERS

ELEMENTARY

New Castle County

FIRST PLACE

MADISON CAPRA

Bunker Hill

SECOND PLACE

ADELINE HILL

Jones Elementary

THIRD PLACE

HILLARY SHEN

North Star

Kent County

FIRST PLACE

MELAINA MENDOZA

Reilly Brown

SECOND PLACE

COLLIN HOLDERMAN

Reilly Brown

THIRD PLACE

CARSON HOLDERMAN

Reilly Brown

Sussex County

FIRST PLACE

ADDIE HAGER

Lord Baltimore

SECOND PLACE

ADALEE OLAJOS

Lord Baltimore

THIRD PLACE

VIOLET BENNETT

Lord Baltimore

ART CONTEST WINNERS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

New Castle County

FIRST PLACE

SIMON RALSTON MACOY

Cab Calloway

SECOND PLACE

LEELA DEMAIO

First State Montessori

THIRD PLACE

LAURYN ASHLEY

MOT Charter

Kent County

FIRST PLACE

MIGUEL GUERRERO

First State Christian

SECOND PLACE

DANIEL GUERRERO

First State Christian

THIRD PLACE

WYATT GILSON

Campus Community

Sussex County

FIRST PLACE

RYLEIGH ORTWEIN

Fred Thomas Middle

SECOND PLACE

KOLT LYONS

Mariner Middle

THIRD PLACE

ETHAN PARKS

Beacon Middle

ART CONTEST WINNERS

HIGH SCHOOL

New Castle County

FIRST PLACE
MIKAYLA DARKO

Newark High School

SECOND PLACE
LEXI DIXON
Newark High School

Kent County

FIRST PLACE
ARYANNA SAUNDERS
Dover High School

SECOND PLACE
NEVEAH RUMBLEY
Dover High School



Male Blue Dasher, Glasgow, DE

ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



Male Blue Dasher, Muddy Run, Glasgow, DE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

First Place

SOPHIA NAJEMY

Claymont Elementary

MIDDLE SCHOOL

First Place

ISABELLA ESPOSITO

Beacon Middle

Second Place

DAMIAN BURNS

Beacon Middle

Third Place

ROBYN ANADU

Beacon Middle

&

SAANVI SIHI

Odyssey Charter

HIGH SCHOOL

First Place

MEILE GARRETT

Sussex Technical

Second Place

FRANCESCA JOELLA

Homeschool

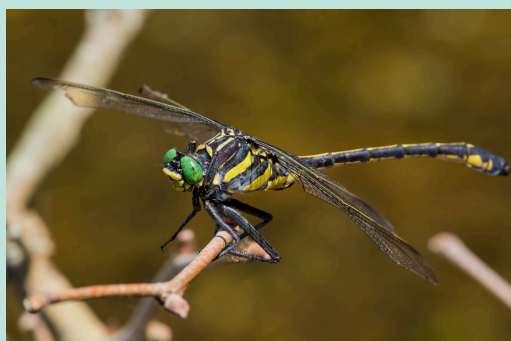
Third Place

KIRA DAHL

Sussex Technical



Common Green Darner,
Male, Summit Bridge



Dragonhunter, Male,
Brandywine Creek State Park



Calico Pennant, Male,
Summit Bridge Ponds

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT,
VISIT DELAWARENATURALLY.ORG/DRAGONFLIES**



Tiger Spiketail, Male,
White Clay Creek State Park



Blue-Faced Meadowhawk,
Male, Lum's Pond State Park

**Thank you to all of
our partners!**



Delaware
Nature Society



MT. CUBA
CENTER



DELAWARE
BOTANIC
GARDENS
AT PEPPER CREEK



Delaware Museum
of Nature & Science

