



The Reich-Henderson Writing Competition: Student Engagement in Community Projects

The Reich-Henderson Writing Competition honors the lifelong dedication of Dr. Robert "Doc" Reich and Ms. Paula Henderson to promote peace and social justice. Doc was a founding member of the University United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge and a committed teacher at Louisiana State University. Paula was an educator, social activist and dedicated member of the Unitarian Church. Both were tireless advocates for the disenfranchised members of our community.

Essay topic:

Write an essay in which you describe any of your activities that have helped people in need.

We would like to hear about what motivated you to engage in these activities, what they were, and what you felt about them – before you began, while you were doing them, and after they were completed.

You may have had conflicted feelings, for example, and the actual experience of working on the project may have been different from what you thought it would be.

Do your best to make your experiences come to life for your readers.

Finally, we would be interested in any kinds of lessons you learned through your experience in this or similar projects.

Essay length: maximum 1000 words, there is no minimum.

• **Eligibility:**

• The competition is open to all eleventh grade high school students in Louisiana. In order to be eligible, all writers must mail a copy of the certification form below, signed by the student's English/ Language Arts teacher. You can also download this form at www.bienvillehousecenter.org

• **How to enter:**

• * Student's name, phone number and e-mail address, if available, should be in the top left corner of the essay.

• * Essays should be e-mailed (Word document or PDF format, with the student's last name and first initial as the filename) to bienvillehousecenter@gmail.com, or sent to **PO Box 4363, Baton Rouge LA 70821**. *Electronic submissions are preferred, but all entries will receive equal consideration, regardless of the form in which they are submitted.*

• * **All entries must be received by February 28th, 2012.**

1st prize: \$250.00

2nd prize: \$150.00

3rd prize: \$100.00

• **Sponsored by the Bienville House Center for Peace & Justice**

The Reich-Henderson Writing Competition Certification

I certify that _____ is an eleventh grade student at
(print student's name)

_____ in _____ and that this is his/her work.
(high school name) (city)

Teacher's Signature _____ Date _____

Print teacher's name _____

Teacher's contact e-mail _____

Please mail this certification to: Reich-Henderson Writing Competition
Bienville House Center for Peace & Justice
PO Box 4363, Baton Rouge LA 70821