



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

December 3, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice *TRB*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: 2013-2014 *To Kill a Mockingbird* Essay Contest

I am pleased to announce the thirteenth annual *To Kill a Mockingbird* Essay Contest. Please share this information and encourage your language arts staff to recruit students to participate in this worthy contest.

To Kill a Mockingbird is one of America's best-loved novels, for it captures the ambiance of small-town life in the Deep South. Its author, Monroeville, Alabama, native, Nelle Harper Lee, is one of the most important contributors to the canon of literature of the American South, which is known and appreciated worldwide.

The University Honors Program of The University of Alabama inaugurated this contest on the occasion of Ms. Lee's 2001 induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor. Its success has led to this thirteenth annual statewide essay contest, which is open to students in Grades 9-12 throughout Alabama.

It has been over 50 years since the publication of Ms. Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* and an even longer time from the era that the novel presents. Since then, this country has advanced technologically, legally, and socially, but Ms. Lee's book remains the iconic work of American fiction. What is it in *To Kill a Mockingbird* that still speaks powerfully to us today? **The essay should be typed, double-spaced, and three pages (600-750 words) in length.** Teachers are urged to assist the winning essay writer at their schools by editing the papers for spelling errors, errors of fact (e.g., *To Kill a Mockingbird* is not set in the 1950s), and basic grammar. The content of the paper must come directly from the students. Teachers are asked to help correct clearly technical errors.

Each participating school shall choose a winning entry. A monetary prize will be given to each winner. The statewide student winner as judged by The University Honors Program will receive \$500, and \$500 will also go to that student's school. The deadline for submissions is **December 13, 2013**. The winner will be announced in early January 2014 at an awards ceremony for all participating contestants. Please refer to the enclosed entry form for further details regarding essay submissions.

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City and County Superintendents of Education
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The Alabama State Department of Education supports this endeavor and recognizes it as an excellent forum that highlights the talent of our students and teachers. For further information, please contact Alison Verhine, The University Honors Program, at telephone number 205-348-5554 or via e-mail at allison.verhine@ua.edu.

TRB/CET/LM

Attachments

cc: Curriculum Coordinators
High School Principals (9-12)
Counselors (9-12)

FY14-2022

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
HONORS COLLEGE

Knowledge changes you. You change the world.



2013-2014 *To Kill a Mockingbird* Essay Contest

The Honors College at The University of Alabama is pleased to announce the thirteenth annual *To Kill a Mockingbird* Essay Contest. The Honors College at The University of Alabama inaugurated this contest on the occasion of Ms. Lee's 2001 induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor. Its success has led to this thirteenth annual statewide essay contest, which is open to 9-12th graders throughout Alabama.

To Kill a Mockingbird is one of America's best-loved novels. It captures the ambiance and conflicts of small-town life in the Deep South during the Depression. Its author, Monroeville, Alabama native Harper Lee, is one of the most important contributors to the canon of literature of the American South, which is known and appreciated worldwide.

Essay Prompt:

It has been over 50 years since the publication of Nelle Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and an even longer time from the era that novel presents. Since then, this country has advanced technologically, legally, and socially, but Lee's book remains the iconic work of American fiction. What is it in *To Kill a Mockingbird* which still speaks powerfully to readers today?

The essay should be typed, double-spaced, and 3 pages (600-750 words) in length. Teachers are urged to assist the winning essay writer at their schools by editing the papers for spelling errors, errors of fact, and basic grammar. The content of the paper must come directly from the student, but teachers are asked to help the student correct clearly technical errors.

Each participating school shall choose a winning entry, and a monetary prize will be given to each of these winners.

The statewide student winner as judged by The Honors College will receive \$500 and \$500 will also go that student's school.

The deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm on **December 13, 2013**. The winner will be announced in early 2014 at an awards ceremony for all participating contestants.

Please refer to the entry form for further details regarding essay submissions.

For further information, contact Allison Verhine in The Honors College at allison.verhine@ua.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
HONORS COLLEGE

Knowledge changes you. You change the world.



2013-2014 *To Kill A Mockingbird* Essay Contest

- This entry form is to be used for the winning essay from each school.
- Please print or type.
- The deadline for submissions to be *received* by mail or fax is 5:00 pm December 13, 2013.
- You will receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of your school's entry.
Contact us if you do not receive this confirmation email.

Student's Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail address _____

Student's Grade in school (9-12) _____

Name of School _____

Address of School _____

Telephone number _____ FAX _____

Name of supervising/sponsoring teacher _____

Teacher's e-mail address _____

Teacher's signature certifying
this as the school's winning entry _____

Please attach the essay to this entry form, along with the VIN form (below) for your student to receive a check from UA and mail or fax to:

The Honors College
Box 870169
The University of Alabama
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
Attn: Allison Verhine
FAX (205) 348-5501

The student's name should not appear on the essay itself to preserve anonymity during judging. The deadline for essays to be *received* is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2013.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

REQUEST FOR VENDOR INFORMATION

NOTE: PAYMENT WILL BE HELD UNTIL FORM IS RETURNED.

Federal law requires us to obtain a valid taxpayer identification number (TIN) for each person or entity to whom the University makes a reportable payment.

Name as registered with the IRS: _____

Name as it appears on your social security card or SS-4 application

DBA (doing business as): _____

Business name, if different from individual or parent company name

Taxpayer Identification Number-enter your 9-digit number that corresponds to the name entered above. For individuals, this is your social security number. For other entities, it is the employer identification number assigned by the IRS.

_____-_____-_____
Social Security Number

OR

_____-_____-_____
Employer Identification Number

Type of Entity for IRS Tax Filing Purposes:

- ☐ Individual ☐ Sole Proprietor ☐ Corporation ☐ LLC ☐ Partnership ☐ Government Agency
☐ Tax Exempt Entity- list type _____
☐ Other (please explain) _____

Are you or any of the officers/members/owners of your organization related to a UA Employee? ☐ Y ☐ N

If yes, list name of UA employee(s) _____

Are you or any of the officers/members/owners of your organization currently or previously employed by UA? ☐ Y ☐ N

If yes, list positions held _____

For individuals, are you a U.S. citizen? ☐ Y ☐ N **If no, list country of citizenship** _____

Order From/Solicitation Address:

Remit to Address:

Street _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Website: _____

Vendor Classification

- ☐ Female-owned ☐ Male-owned ☐ Small ☐ Large Total number of people employed by company _____
☐ Non-Disadvantaged (non-minority)

Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Businesses (To be considered disadvantaged, the company must be 51% or more owned, controlled, and operated by one or more of the following groups; check appropriate group or groups):

- ☐ Black American ☐ Hispanic American ☐ American Indian ☐ Asian Pacific American ☐ Asian Indian American
☐ Disabled ☐ Other socially & economically disadvantaged group – please specify: _____

Year Company Established: _____ Gross Sales Last Year: _____

Dun and Bradstreet Number: _____ Rating Date: _____ Rating: _____

Type of products/services provided: _____

Certification: Under penalties of perjury, I certify that: (1) the number shown above is my correct taxpayer identification number; and (2) I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been identified by IRS that I am subject to backup withholding.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____