

### STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



December 3, 2013

Alabama State Board of Education

### <u>MEMORANDUM</u>

Governor **Robert Bentley**  TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

Tracy T. Roberts District i

Thomas R. Bice

FROM:

State Superintendent of Education

2013-2014 To Kill a Mockingbird Essay Contest

**Betty Peters** District II

RE:

Stephanie Beli District III

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D. District IV

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.

Elia B. Bell District V

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.

Charles E. Elliott, M.D. District VI Vice President

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.

Jeff Newman District VII

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.

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D. District VIII

> 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.

Thomas R. Bice, Ed.D. Secretary and Executive Officer

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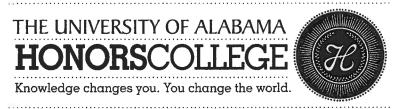
The Alabama State Department of Education supports this endeavor and recognizes it as an excellent forum that highlights the talent of our students and teachers. For further information, please contact Alison Verhine, The University Honors Program, at telephone number 205-348-5554 or via e-mail at <a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

#### TRB/CET/LM

#### Attachments

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

FY14-2022



# 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 9-12<sup>th</sup> 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.

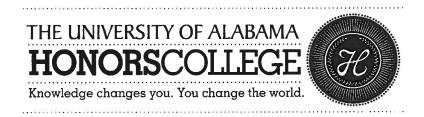
Each participating school shall choose a winning entry, and a monetary prize will be given to each of these winners.

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.



## 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.

tudent's Name
Address
City, State, ZIP
Celephone Number
E-mail address
tudent's Grade in school (9-12)
Name of School
Address of School
Celephone numberFAX
Name of supervising/sponsoring teacher
Ceacher's e-mail address
eacher's signature certifying his 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	
	nber that corresponds to the name entered above. For individuals, this is ye	
Social Security Number	Employer Identification Number	
Type of Entity for IRS Tax Filing Purposes:		
☐ Individual ☐ Sole Proprietor ☐ Corporation☐ Tax Exempt Entity- list type☐ Other (please explain)		
Are you or any of the officers/members/owners of your If yes, list name of UA employee(s)	r organization related to a UA Employee? 🔲 Y 🔲 N	
Are you or any of the officers/members/owners of your If yes, list positions held	r organization currently or previously employed by UA? 🔲 Y 🔲 N	
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	- And Control of the	
Phone:	ambed selection and times	
T.	F	
E-mail address:		
Website:		
☐ Female-owned ☐ Male-owned ☐ Small ☐ L ☐ Non-Disadvantaged (non-minority)  Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Businesses ( more owned, controlled, and operated by one or more ☐ Black American ☐ Hispanic American ☐ American	Vendor Classification  Large Total number of people employed by company  (To be considered disadvantaged, the company must be 51% or e of the following groups; check appropriate group or groups):  ican Indian	
Disabled Other socially & economically disadva	antaged group – please specify:	
Year Company Established: Gro	ross Sales Last Year:  Rating Date:  Rating:	
Type of products/services provided:		
	shown above is my correct taxpayer identification number; and (2) I am not subject to backup I have not been identified by IRS that I am subject to backup withholding.	
Signature:	Date:	
Printed Name:	Title:	