



THE ELIE WIESEL FOUNDATION FOR HUMANITY

555 MADISON AVENUE • 20TH FLOOR • NEW YORK, NY 10022 • TEL 212.490.7788 • FAX 212.490.6006

TO: DEAN OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE

FROM: SCARLET CRONIN, ESSAY CONTEST COORDINATOR

DATE: AUGUST 2008

RE: THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS ESSAY CONTEST 2009

We are pleased to announce *The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest 2009*. This annual contest – now in its 20th year – was created to challenge college students to contemplate ethical issues facing them in today's complex society and to analyze their own perception and thoughts on ethics. We hope you will encourage full-time juniors and seniors at your institution to compete in this contest for awards of up to \$5,000. The deadline for the contest is December 19, 2008. A distinguished panel of readers will evaluate all entries and a jury, including Elie Wiesel, will choose the winners. All winners will be announced in April of 2009.

Students entering the contest are required to complete an entry form along with their Faculty Sponsor. Any interested professor may act as a Faculty Sponsor and verify the quality and authenticity of the student's essay. We hope you will inform your faculty of this worthwhile competition and urge them to encourage their students to explore ethical issues and consider entering our *Prize in Ethics Essay Contest*. To ensure that your campus is represented by essays of the highest caliber, faculty members should only endorse thought-provoking, well-written essays that fall within the contest guidelines.

Enclosed please find a poster announcing the 2009 essay contest. We have also included copies of the Contest Guidelines, Entry Form, and the 2008 Winners Announcement. All of these materials may be reproduced. This information – and much more about The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity and our *Prize in Ethics Essay Contest* – can also be found on our website at www.eliewiesel.foundation.org.

Should you have any questions or need additional contest materials, please feel free to contact us at 212-490-7788.

We look forward to receiving essays from your school.

THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS

ESSAY CONTEST 2009

GUIDELINES

AWARDS:

- ✧ First Prize - \$ 5,000
- ✧ Second Prize - \$ 2,500
- ✧ Third Prize - \$ 1,500
- ✧ Two Honorable Mentions - \$ 500 each

ELIGIBILITY:

- ✧ Registered undergraduate full-time juniors or seniors at accredited four-year colleges or universities in the United States during the fall 2008 semester.

SUGGESTED ESSAY TOPICS:

- ✧ What does your own experience tell you about the relationship between politics and ethics and, in particular, what could be done to make politics more ethical?
- ✧ Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.
- ✧ From a personal viewpoint, how does globalization impact your view of the Other in society and in the world?
- ✧ Clearly analyze the relationship between religion and ethics in today's world.
- ✧ How does a recent political or cultural event shed light on the ethics of rebellion/revolution?

WHAT THE READERS LOOK FOR:

- ✧ Clear articulation and genuine grappling with an ethical dilemma
- ✧ Adherence to guidelines and carefully proofread essays
- ✧ Observation of rules for Standard English usage (grammar, punctuation, mechanics) in writing and revising your work
- ✧ Thoroughly thought-out, tightly focused essays
- ✧ Originality and imagination
- ✧ Eloquence of writing style
- ✧ Intensity and unity in the essay

ESSAY FORMAT:

- ✧ In 3,000 to 4,000 words, students are encouraged to raise questions, single out issues and identify dilemmas.
- ✧ Essays may be written in the formal or informal voice, but most importantly, an individual voice should be evident in the essay.
- ✧ The essay should be developed from the student's point of view and may take the form of an analysis that is biographical, historical, literary, philosophical, psychological, sociological or theological.
- ✧ Essay must be the original, unpublished work of one student. Only one essay per student per year may be submitted.
- ✧ Essay should be titled, typed in 12-point font in English, double-spaced with 1" margins and numbered pages.
- ✧ Submissions will be judged anonymously. Hence, no name or identifying references (i.e. your name, school, or professor) should appear on the title page or in the manuscript. Our office will put a code on your essay.

FACULTY SPONSOR:

- ✧ Any interested professor at the student's school may act as a Faculty Sponsor.
- ✧ Students entering the contest are required to have a Faculty Sponsor review their essay and sign the Entry Form.
- ✧ Faculty members should only endorse thought-provoking, well-written essays that fall within the contest guidelines.

SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS:

- ✧ Please submit three (3) copies of your essay (one (1) copy paper-clipped and two (2) stapled).
- ✧ In addition, be sure to enclose a completed Entry Form (signed by both you and your faculty sponsor).
- ✧ Include a letter on school stationery from the Registrar's Office, verifying your eligibility (see above).
- ✧ Entries must be postmarked on or before December 19, 2008. No faxed or e-mailed entries will be accepted.
- ✧ Please note that due to the volume of entries, no materials will be critiqued or returned.

CONTEST DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19, 2008

Please complete the submission checklist on the Entry Form and send all materials together to:

THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS

THE ELIE WIESEL FOUNDATION FOR HUMANITY

555 MADISON AVENUE - 20TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10022

TELEPHONE: 212-490-7788 www.eliewieselfoundation.org

THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS

ESSAY CONTEST 2009

ENTRY FORM

WE PREFER THAT YOU ENTER ONLINE AT WWW.ELIEWIESELFFOUNDATION.ORG

STUDENT INFO:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Circle one: Junior Senior

Title of Essay: _____

College/University: _____

Graduation Date: _____ Major: _____

Address _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ School phone: _____

E-mail: _____

FACULTY SPONSOR INFO:

Name of Faculty Sponsor: _____

College/University: _____

Position: _____ Department: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I have read the Guidelines for The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest 2009 and confirm that the essay submitted is an intelligent and thought-provoking essay worthy of this competition and is the student's own original, unpublished work.

Student's Signature / Date

Faculty Sponsor's Signature / Date

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST:

- _____ A completed Entry Form (signed by both student and Faculty Sponsor)
- _____ A letter from the Registrar's office (on school stationery, verifying eligibility)
- _____ Three (3) copies of your essay (one (1) paper-clipped, two (2) stapled)

CONTEST POSTMARK DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19, 2008

MAIL TO:

THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS
THE ELIE WIESEL FOUNDATION FOR HUMANITY
555 MADISON AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10022

The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity reserves the right to publish the winning essays, in whole or in part.

These essays may not be published elsewhere without written permission from the Foundation.

Please note that due to the volume of entries, no materials will be critiqued or returned.

PLEASE ENTER ONLINE AT WWW.ELIEWIESELFFOUNDATION.ORG

THE ELIE WIESEL FOUNDATION FOR HUMANITY
CONGRATULATES THE WINNERS OF
**The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics
Essay Contest 2008**

SECOND PRIZE \$2,500

"Independence"

HEATHER HELDMAN

YALE UNIVERSITY
CINCINNATI, OH

FIRST PRIZE \$5,000

"God in Our Ethics"

MAEGAN GIBSON

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-
SUPERIOR
VIRGINIA, MN

THIRD PRIZE \$1,500

"The Ethics of Reclaiming"

NIKOLAS NADEAU

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY (MN)
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

HONORABLE MENTION \$500 EACH

"Colorblind America and the
Death of Affirmative Action"

ELAINE LAI

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
BOSTON, MA

"Truth and Reconciliation"

JESSICA RICHMAN

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
BROOKLYN, NY

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest is designed to challenge college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today's complex world. Students are encouraged to write thought-provoking personal essays that raise questions, single out issues and are rational arguments for ethical action. We congratulate the 2008 winners.



To learn more about the Contest,
please visit:
www.eliewieselfoundation.org

Or, you may contact our office by
phone at (212) 490-7788 or via
e-mail at
info@eliewieselfoundation.org