

NJTESOL/NJBE, INC.
AN AFFILIATE OF NJEA, TESOL, AND NABE

FIFTH ANNUAL NJTESOL/NJBE 8TH GRADE ENGLISH WRITING CHALLENGE

SPONSOR

NJTESOL/NJBE is offering a laptop computer for one student at the 8th grade level who is or has been enrolled in Bilingual/ESL classes. We request that you distribute the information to the Bilingual/ESL teachers and/or guidance counselors in the middle schools in your district as well as to eligible students. Please encourage them to apply. If you have any questions about the awards, please contact the Award Committee:

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must be:

1. an 8th grade student in school in NEW JERSEY.
2. a New Jersey resident
3. a student who is currently receiving bilingual and/or ESL instruction in New Jersey or who exited successfully from a Bilingual/ESL program in New Jersey last school year (2010-2011)
4. referring teacher must be a member of NJTESOL/NJBE

CRITERIA

The application consists of three sections. Each of the three sections is considered carefully in selecting the award winners. Forms for Parts I-III should be downloaded. Follow the directions explicitly. *Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

Each application packet must include the following items in one envelope, which will be considered in the selection of the two award winners:

Checklist

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Part I: Award Application Form | _____ |
| 2. Part II: Essay answering the questions: <u>“How has being Bilingual made you a better person?”</u>
Typed or handwritten, double-spaced; 400 words or less. | _____ |
| Essays will be graded primarily on content.
The purpose of the essay is to see how students write independently. | _____ |
| 3. Part III. Recommendation
(teacher MUST be a member of NJTESOL/NJBE, Inc.) | _____ |

DEADLINE

Complete applications and writings **must be RECEIVED by March 1st, 2012. No exceptions.**

The application packet must be complete. *No incomplete or late packets will be considered.*

Mail to:

**Ms. Tina Kern
34 Colonial Woods Drive
West Orange, NJ 07052**

NJTESOL/NJBE
8th Grade Writing Contest APPLICATION continued

PART II: INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE Writing Contest

(TO BE TYPEWRITTEN or HANDWRITTEN ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER)

Writing Theme: “How does being Bilingual make you a better person?”

Essay
• 400 words Maximum
• Relevant to topic
• Written in English
• Will be judged using the 8 th grade New Jersey State Holistic Writing Rubric

Applications will be judged anonymously. All identifying information must be written on the back of the essay, NOT on the front. ALL entries MUST be received by March 1st, 2012. No late entries will be accepted.

Although you may discuss and brainstorm the topic with peers and teachers during the pre-writing stage, **your final draft should be yours exclusively.**

The selection committee will base the evaluation on the message contained in your writing and the unique form in which you express it. In summary, the committee wants to consider a work for which you can claim ownership because it contains your true feelings and thoughts. **It must be your work with no editing by others. The title must be “How does being Bilingual make you a better person?”**

****Be sure to include your name and contact information on the back of your essay.****

Please complete the following certification.

I, _____ certify that the essay and open-ended question are my own work with no editing by others. **We give permission to NJTESOL/NJBE to edit and publish the essay with the applicant’s name and photo** if this association deems it appropriate. To the best of my knowledge all the information contained in the information packet is accurate.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

