

PTA MEN: Partners in Making a Difference

Washington State PTA invites all children to enter an ESSAY CONTEST!

Men make a difference in the lives of the children they care about, and children are more successful in and out of school when they have the guidance of an involved male role model — a father, grandfather, uncle, brother, step-father, teacher, mentor, neighbor, pastor/priest, coach, or friend. Washington State PTA advocates for all children and all families, and as part of that advocacy we are promoting a statewide essay contest that explores this vital relationship - from our children's perspective.

Judging Criteria:

Essays will be judged by Washington State PTA representatives, in accordance with state education recognized standards of good writing. (The Essential Academic Learning Requirement for good writing is online at www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/Writing/pubdocs/pdf/writing.pdf)

Consideration will be given for:

- Content: development of concept and organization of ideas (50%)
- Style: use of voice, word choice and sentence fluency (30%)
- Conventions: spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, and capitalization (20%)

Judging Process:

Round 1: All entries received by the February 1st deadline will be reviewed by a panel of judges to determine the top 104 entries (8 from each of 13 statewide regions; two winners per age group listed below)

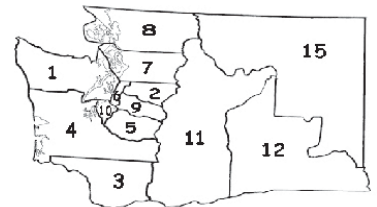
K-2 grade: 2 winners per region

3-5 grade: 2 winners per region

6-8 grade: 2 winners per region

9-12 grade: 2 winners per region

Region winners will be acknowledged on a regional basis.



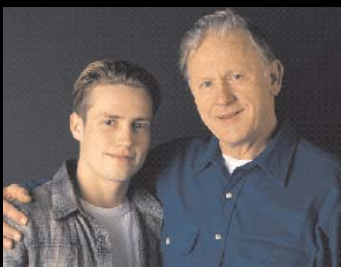
Round 2: From the 104 regionally winning essays, four finalists will be selected as statewide winners. A panel will select one winning essay from each represented age grouping cited above.

Prizes and Recognition:

- All contest applicants will be acknowledged with a certificate of participation.
- Each statewide finalist will be recognized at the Washington State PTA convention at the DoubleTree Hotel in SeaTac, May 2010.
- His/Her essay posted on the WSPTA website and published in a future edition of *The Child Advocate* magazine.
- Grand prize winners will receive four field level tickets to a Mariner's game during the 2010 season.

Notification:

A list of winners will be posted on the Washington State PTA website March 15, 2010. All regional winners and statewide finalists will be notified by mail and/or email on or before March 10, 2010.



For updated information on the
 PTA Men: Partners in Making a Difference program, visit:
www.wastatepta.org/programs/PTAmen.htm

Official Rules:

All entries shall include an essay no more than 650 words that describes how a male role model — a father, grandfather, uncle, brother, stepfather, teacher, mentor, neighbor, pastor/priest, coach, or friend - any male who plays a role in your personal life, has positively influenced your education with his involvement.

Entries must include an ENTRY FORM (see below) including your full name, address, age, grade level, school, telephone number and email address. Essays must be typed or handwritten legibly on an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper. Limit of one entry per person. Multiple entries from a single person will automatically be disqualified.

Entries must be mailed with first-class postage affixed to:

Washington State PTA
ESSAY CONTEST
2003 65th Avenue West
Tacoma, WA 98466

All entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2010.

Eligibility:

Open to all Washington State children K-12 in public, private or home-school settings. Each entrant warrants and represents that its essay is original, has not been written by a parent or professional writer or previously won a prize and does not infringe the copyright or other proprietary rights of any third party.

Notice:

All essays become the property of WSPTA and will not be returned. Submission of an essay grants Washington State PTA exclusive rights to use the essay and entrant's name for commercial or noncommercial use, including but not limited to public presentation of the work and reproduction of the work in print, electronic, and multimedia formats.



Entry Form



Please complete this form in full and attach it to your essay.

PRINT CLEARLY USING BLUE OR BLACK INK

Name _____ Grade _____ Age _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

PTA/PTSA Name _____ PTA # _____ Region # (see map on front) _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Name of School _____

Signature of Parent / Legal Guardian _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Written Name _____

Mail essay and completed form to:

Washington State PTA, ESSAY CONTEST, 2003 65th Avenue West, Tacoma, WA 98466

Entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2010.