

THE ECHO FOUNDATION

Presents

Despair, Hope & Reconciliation

GUIDELINES

ESSAY & POETRY CONTEST

***Essay Prompt:** One of the most successful tactics for prompting change and intervention is for individuals to directly communicate with political leaders. Draft a letter to a political leader of your choosing. Explain why you are compelled to voice your concern for Darfur and make the case, using both facts and values, that more must be done to halt the violence in Sudan. Suggest some things that can be done.*

***Poetry Prompt:** Write a poem about Darfur so powerful that, when it is read by citizens and world leaders alike, they will be compelled to take action and halt the violence in Darfur.*

WHAT: Presented by The Echo Foundation, *Despair, Hope & Reconciliation* offers writing contests in 2 categories: **ESSAY AND POETRY**. Students are invited to respond to the above challenge in either category.

WHO: The contest is open to all Charlotte area high school students, grades 9 – 12.

WHEN: Entry forms and submissions must be postmarked or received by The Echo Foundation at 1125 East Morehead Street, Suite 106, Charlotte, NC 28204, by **Monday, December 13, 2007**.

HOW: Entry forms may be downloaded at <http://www.echofoundation.org>, The Echo Foundation web site, or obtained at The Echo Foundation office. No student name should appear on the front of a submission and an entry form must accompany each entry.

PURCHASE AWARDS AND CATEGORIES: First (\$100), second (\$75) and third (\$50) prizes will be given in each of the two categories.

JUDGING AND RULES: Educators and professionals in the corresponding fields will serve on the judging panel. The panels reserve the right to not award a cash prize in a category if the submissions do not meet the qualifications for entry. All written entries must be typed (double-spaced). Word limit for essays is 1,500; poetry has no limit on length.

For more information contact: The Echo Foundation at 704-347-3844, or email questions to charlotteechoes@aol.com.

Please attach student photo here

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ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST:
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

This completed and signed form must accompany each entry. Copies of this form are permissible.

Essays may be no more than 1,500 words, must be printed in size 12 font and double-spaced.

Please Print or Type:

Full Name: _____ Male Female

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ School: _____

Current Class Status: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

I am submitting: Essay Poetry

Title of entry and brief description:

I give permission for my student's essay entry to be used in future publications and/or exhibits.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

**Entry form and submission must be postmarked or received by The Echo Foundation,
1125 E. Morehead Street, Suite 106, Charlotte, NC 28204, by Monday,
December 3, 2007.**

For more information contact:
The Echo Foundation at 704-347-3844 or email questions to charlottechoes@aol.com.