



*Haitian American Leadership Organization, Inc.  
2009 Essay Contest*

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*“Evaluate the impacts of the Haitian Revolution  
on the American Continents (North & South)”*

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The Haitian American Leadership Organization wants to increase high school students' knowledge and understanding of the importance of the Haitian Revolution on the American Continent. Winners of this essay contest receive scholarship awards.

**Who is eligible?**

All students enrolled in grades 9-12 in public, private and home schools. Students must submit original work and have a sponsoring teacher sign the contest entry form.

**Format**

The essay should be 600 words maximum and must include an entry form. Entries may be typed or handwritten but must be double-spaced.

**Entering**

Send all entries to:  
Haitian American Leadership Organization.  
Essay Contest  
P.O. Box 827832  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33082-7832

**Awards**

First Place: Lap Top Computer  
Second Place: \$300 Barnes & Noble Gift Certificate + 8 gigabytes USB Drive  
Third Place: \$250 Barnes & Noble Gift certificate

**Entry Deadline:**

All entries should be postmarked by December 21, 2009. The entry form is attached

Haitian American Leadership Organization, Inc.  
P.O. Box 827832  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33082-7832

For further information contact us at:  
Phone: 888.759.0085  
Fax: 888.759.3161  
E-mail: [halo@halohaiti.org](mailto:halo@halohaiti.org)

## Complete Official Rules

### Section I - General Rules

1. Contestants must compose an original essay with limited guidance from others.
2. The Haitian American Leadership Organization will have the right to edit, publish or otherwise duplicate any essay entered into the contest without payment to the author.
3. There is no cost to enter the contest.
4. References must be provided on all materials that are cited.

### Section II - Qualifications for Contestants

1. The contest is open to all students in grades 9-12 in public, private and home schools.
2. Contestants may submit only one essay entry.
3. No individual having previously won an award from the Haitian American Leadership will be eligible to compete again.

### Section III - Contest Rules

1. Each contestant should read a copy of the rules and must complete the entry form. The rules contain information about the contest, judging and awards.
2. Participants must write on the official topic.
3. Each entry must include the Contest Entry Title Page (entry form) or submit a cover page containing the same information found on the Entry Form.
4. Essays must double-space typewritten.
5. Essays must contain at least 500 words but no more than 600 words. Every word of the essay is counted. This does not include the title, bibliography or footnotes.
6. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the essay must be identified properly. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
7. Essays must be written in English.
8. The entry must be stapled together in the upper left-hand corner.
9. Any protest in the conduct of the contest must be made immediately. The Haitian American Leadership Board will decide all protests in conformity with the contest rules. The decision of the Board is final, and no higher appeals will be recognized.

### Section IV - Judging and Timing

1. Judging will be completed by a panel of qualified judges.
2. In an effort to conceal the identity of each contestant, each entry will be assigned a number by the Essay Contest Chair. The assigned number will be placed on the title page and first page of the essay. The title page will then be detached and retained by the Essay Contest Chair. The judges will be given the essay bearing only the assigned number.
3. Judges will not discuss or compare essays being judged until all essays have been judged.
4. Only judges can assign a penalty or award points.

### Section V - Scoring of Contest

1. Scoring procedures at all levels of the contest will be identical.
2. Material Organization (Logical interpretation of the subject, adherence to topic): 40 points
3. Vocabulary and Style (Phrasing and continuity): 30 points
4. Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling: 20 points
5. Neatness: 5 points
6. Adherence to contest rules (prepared in the proper format): 5 points

### Section VI - Awards

First Place: Lap Top Computer

Second Place: \$300 Barnes & Noble Gift Certificate + 8 gigabytes USB Drive

Third Place: \$250 Barnes & Noble Gift certificate

Scholarships are funded by the Haitian American Leadership.

#### Questions?

For further information contact us at:

Phone: 888.759.0085

Fax: 888.759.3161

E-mail: [halo@halohaiti.org](mailto:halo@halohaiti.org)

#### Awards and Honors Committee

This committee oversees this year HALO's awards, which is dedicated to recognizing outstanding achievement in writing. Any changes in guidelines, judging criteria, categories or eligibility are reviewed by this committee.



2009 Entry Contest Title Page

*"Evaluate the impacts of the Haitian Revolution on the American Continents"*

An essay contest sponsored by the Haitian American Leadership Organization

Please attach this form to your entry

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level and Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify this student is submitting original work.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's signature and Date

Postmark deadline: December 21st, 2009 - Please duplicate this form as needed

Please submit your to:  
Haitian American Leadership Organization.  
Essay Contest  
P.O. Box 827832  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33082-7832