



Bilingual Educators Succeeding Together (BEST) Awards STUDENT WRITING CONTEST For High School Seniors



The Student Writing Contest for the BEST Awards will focus on the many advantages of being bilingual and is based on the California Association of Bilingual Educator's theme: "*Imagine, Inspire, Ignite – Multilingualism for All.*" The prompt for the writing contest is: "*Why is being bilingual and biliterate important for you and your family, now and in the future?*" Students are encouraged to approach this writing contest in an imaginative and meaningful manner, expressing themselves in English. Teachers can assist students in focusing on the prompt by exploring how being bilingual and using their creative bilingual voices will enhance their opportunities for learning, career, leadership, self-esteem, as well as the development of their cultural legacy. The use of the writing process is encouraged (prewriting, sharing, revising, editing, and publishing) developing a meaningful and expressive literary piece. Each literary piece should focus on the prompt and demonstrate final editing quality.

Contest winners will be selected by the BEST Awards Committee, based on the following criteria:

- Content: How well the writing addresses the prompt.
- Language: The use of expressive, authentic, rich language.
- Genre: Essay, narrative, or autobiography.

Please read the following directions for submitting student writings:

- Writings should be typed, double-spaced, and three pages maximum.
- Student writings must be submitted in English.
- The student must be an English learner or a reclassified fluent English proficient student.
- **Writing and Student Information Forms must be received by Carlos Flores' office no later than Friday, February 8, 2019.**
- The RCOE writing contest winner will be notified by **Friday, March 15, 2019.**
- The winner at the county level will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, pending proof of acceptance at an institution of higher education.
- **Winners will read a portion of their literary piece at the BEST Awards Recognition Event on Friday, April 5, 2019.**

Districts are responsible for providing admission to BEST Awards Recognition Program for the winner and two accompanying adults.

Please return forms to: *ATTN: Carlos Flores, Educational Services*

For more information, please call Carlos Flores, at (951) 736-5085

BEST AWARDS
STUDENT WRITING CONTEST
Student Information Form

(Please type or print clearly.)

Student Name Grade _____

Student Address City/State/Zip Telephone _____

Parents' Name(s)

School District School _____

Student's Teacher Teacher's Telephone _____

- Student's Classification:
- EL
 - RFEP
 - Dual Language Immersion
 - Seal of Multiliteracy

School Attendance: _____
(Excellent, Good, Bad)

Certified Staff Verifying Attendance: _____
Name Signature