

## Teen Creative Writing Contest 2009-2010

### Summary of the Project

- Teens in grades 6-12 are eligible for this contest.
- Promotional posters and entry forms have been distributed by teen and multi-service librarians to schools in HDPL's service area through previously established connections.
- Works of poetry, one-act plays, short stories, or essays up to 1,500 words will be accepted for consideration.
- Teens can turn in their entries (no more than three per teen) between December 1, 2009 and February 28, 2010 at any HDPL youth services desk or online at [jdsullenberger@hdpl.org](mailto:jdsullenberger@hdpl.org).
- All work must be original and unpublished.
- Selected entries, chosen by HDPL teen librarians, will be collected and published as a literary magazine.
- Patrons will be notified by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 if their work has been selected for publication.
- A reception and unveiling of the literary magazine will be held at the Paseo Verde Library on Tuesday April 27, 2010 at 5:00pm. Awards for middle and high school entries will be announced and an open-mic will be offered for participants to read their work. Light refreshments will be provided.
- Copies will be available online and at all HDPL locations.

### Estimated Costs

- Currently the printing and binding of magazines will be done in house with the help of teen and adult library volunteers.
- \$150 for printing and binding supplies
  - \$36.99 = 1 case of copy paper from Staples (5,000 sheets)
    - 3 cases of paper = approx. \$111.00
  - Binding combs from Office Depot, 100 per pack = \$6.99
    - 3 packs = approx \$21.00
  - Estimate construction for 100 entries
    - When folded in half there can be 4 entries printed on each page thus, 25 pages.
    - Add 5 pages for front/back cover, table of contents, acknowledgements, and information on HDPL locations.
    - 1 case = 166 30-page magazines
    - 3 cases = 498 30-page magazines
    - Each branch will receive at least 30 copies for distribution = 150 magazines
    - Each writer will receive at least 2 copies of magazine for themselves and family members = 200 magazines
    - This leaves us with 148 magazines for printing tests and additional distribution.
  - Additional costs for miscellaneous printing costs such as drafts, photocopies for judges, etc.
- \$50-\$60 for reception
  - Food – Punch and cookie trays
  - Supplies – Napkins, cups, small plates
- CURRENT TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS: \$200-\$210

**Rationale:**

The objective of the creative writing contest is to raise interest in creative writing and awareness of National Poetry Month while encouraging library use among teens.

The Search Institute has named forty developmental assets for adolescents. In order to develop each asset successfully, teens need encouragement from adults and community. Public library programming for teens may help fulfill such needs for teens, especially for those who experience underdevelopment of the assets at home or school. Among the assets that we may help develop with this contest are Empowerment, Expectations, Time, and Identity. The contest will help teens realize that their community values them and has high expectations of their abilities; moreover, the contest will provide the teens with an engaging creative outlet and enhanced self esteem. To learn more about the Search Institute's research, please visit <http://www.search-institute.org/assets/>.

**Prizes:**

We hope to obtain prize donations from Henderson businesses and award two prizes for the best overall entries in two categories: middle school and high school. We will offer businesses such as book stores the opportunity to place an ad in the back of the magazine in exchange for a gift card or a selection of books that we may assemble into two prize baskets.