



CREATIVE WRITING and ART CONTEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Seeking Poetry, Short Story, Essays and
Artwork in support of Muslim-Jewish Relations



Sponsored by Greater Detroit Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Council (GDMJSC)



Description and Goals

The GDMJSC invites Detroit area high school students to take part in a creative writing/art contest that depicts their vision of engaging their Jewish and Muslim counterparts.

Their original literary or artwork should encompass an experience, a challenge, a triumph or vision about creating dialogue, friendship and a better understanding of Jews/Muslims and their communities.

A panel of judges will choose a first-place winner in four contest divisions: essay, short story, poetry and art. These winners and selected others will be published in a book- your chance to be a published author!! The winners will each be awarded a \$100 prize and have their entry read or displayed at the GDMJSC Awards Ceremony planned for **5:30 pm, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015, at Wayne State University's Student Union Ballroom, 5221 Gullen Mall, Detroit, MI 48202**. This gala event is co-sponsored by the GDMJSC the Cohn-Haddow Center of WSU, and the Michigan Muslim Coordinating Council, and is part of the national “**Muslims and Jews - We Refuse To Be Enemies**” **Twinning Weekend**, an annual project of the Federation of Ethnic Understanding.

Submission Guidelines

All entries must be submitted to: gdmjsc.contest@gmail.com by MONDAY, Oct. 26, 2015. Only the initials of the writer should be on the entry. **A completed entry form including the student's name and contact information should accompany this entry.**

For the art entries, works must be created on 8 ½"x 11" paper, using pen, marker, crayon, poster paint, photography, computer illustration, or other 2 dimensional media. Please keep your own copies of these works as entries will not be returned.

Entry Guidelines

1. The student writers and artists must be of Jewish or Muslim background or have experience engaging with individuals from these backgrounds.
2. The essay, short story or poem must not be longer than 500 words.
3. Literary works will reflect the students' own experiences and sentiments about their religious/ethnic heritage and how they relate to those of a different faith and ethnicity, i.e., Islam or Judaism. The entered literary works must also reflect the students' hope, vision and/or real experience in communicating and interacting with their Muslim/Jewish counterparts. In addition, this piece should reflect their own perspective on how they envision future encounters and what they see as the future of these two groups living in peace.
4. Both literary and artistic works will be judged on the basis of creativity, clear expression and thoughtfulness on the contest topic of Muslim/Jewish relations.

