

Florida Black History Month 2010

"African-American Art—A Look at Our Past; A Glimpse into Our Future"

Governor Charlie Crist's Black History Month Essay Contest OFFICIAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

Middle School / Grades 6-8 & High School / Grades 9-12

Governor Charlie Crist's Black History Month Essay Contest is open to all grade 6-12 students in the state of Florida. One winner from each level will be selected for a Prepaid College Scholarship. Winners will be notified by **February 20, 2010**.

- Entries must be mailed to Executive Office of the Governor: Black History Month Committee, 400 S. Monroe Street, Suite LL10, Tallahassee, Florida 32399 and **postmarked by Friday, January 22, 2010**.
- Essays should address the following topic: **(Based on Ernie Barnes' painting, "Beach Runner")** A former professional football player, Ernie Barnes is best known for his unique figurative style of painting and is widely recognized as one of the foremost African-American artists. In his painting "Beach Runner," Mr. Barnes' subject appears to be running with freedom, strength, and endurance towards an unseen purpose. Like the runner, you have also been given choices and opportunities, and as a student your education is one way to achieve your goals. Think of your own personal aspirations. In your essay describe your goals and how those goals will contribute to a brighter future for yourself and for your community.
- Each student may enter only one essay.
- Essays should be no longer than 500 words in length, and should be typed or hand written in print only. No cursive writing will be accepted.
- A completed parental waiver form must accompany each essay. The parental waiver can be obtained by logging onto the Governor's Black History Month Web site at www.floridablackhistory.com.
- Essays submitted must include contestant's name, home address, telephone number, school the student attends, grade level and title of the essay.
- The winner will receive a four-year, full tuition scholarship to any Florida state college or university of their choice, provided by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation. The winner must be legal residents to meet all scholarship requirements.
- The winner will be awarded their scholarship at the Governor's Black History Month celebration to be held in Tallahassee in February 2010. Reasonable travel and lodging expenses will be paid for the winners and two immediate family members.



Contact the Governor's Office at (850) 410-0501 with any further questions.

For more information, visit www.FloridaBlackHistory.com.

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PARENTAL / LEGAL GUARDIAN WAIVER

Middle School / Grades 6-8 & High School / Grades 9-12

Student Name:

Grade Level:

Name of School:

Home Mailing Address:

Home Telephone Number:

Work Telephone Number:

Cell Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Release Statement:

As parent or legal guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay, and has followed all of the guidelines and regulations stated above. Should he or she win the essay contest, I agree to allow the essay to be distributed publicly. I also understand that if it is discovered my child plagiarized or that the thoughts expressed are not his or her own, the essay will be subject to disqualification.

Signature, parent/ legal guardian name and contact phone number:

Signature

Name (print)

Telephone Number