

# ***Celebration of Peace***

**Naperville, Illinois**

## **Imagine Peace**

**September 15 – October 26, 2009**

**Essay / Poem for Peace**

## Essay/Poetry Contest

**Description:** Write an essay or poem on the theme 'Imagine Peace'.

**Eligibility:** Open to Elementary, Middle and High school students, in all Naperville schools – Districts 203 and 204, Private schools and home schools.

**How to enter:** Students will receive information packets from their teachers in mid-September and will have 6 weeks to write the essay/poem.

**Submissions:** Last date for turning in essay/poem submissions is October 26, 2009. The essay/poem must be turned in to any teacher in your school or to the District Office. All submissions must have ALL of the following information clearly visible on the same page of the submission:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of teacher (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Judging:** Essays and Poetry will be judged on originality, literary merit, and expression of the theme. Winners will be selected in three age categories - ages 5-9, 10-13 & 14-18. 3 winners each will be selected from school district 203, 204 and from the private schools. A panel of five local judges with extensive experience in the areas of **literature, media, education, communication and diversity awareness** will select the winners.

**Press Conference:** Winners will be announced at a Press conference on Friday, November 13, 2009, at the Naperville City Hall at 7:00 p.m. Winning entries will be posted online for the world to read and be inspired by.

**Guidelines:**

1. All submissions must be ORIGINAL work that directly addresses the theme.
2. The essay must be 500 words or less on the provided essay topic.
3. The poem must be 30 lines or fewer with a maximum of 65 characters per line, on the provided theme.