

***Reno Sunrise Rotary Club and Northern Nevada International Center  
2009 Global Gala Essay Contest:  
“Think Global, Act Local: Renewing American Friendship with the World”***

***Contest for all Washoe County Elementary, Middle  
and High School Students***

The focus of the essay will contribute to the International Center’s April 3, 2009 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Global Gala theme of ***“Think Global, Act Local: Renewing American Friendship with the World.”*** The Northern Nevada International Center’s mission is to foster the role of citizen diplomacy in building bridges of international awareness and understanding through programs of international exchange as well as community and educational outreach in order to promote the equality of all peoples.

**AWARDS**

- Category I: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will draw a picture depicting friendship between Americans and the rest of the world (no contest, but the pictures will be made into a quilt and shown at the Gala)
- Category II: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders; winner receives a \$100 award; essay in the program booklet
- Category III: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders; winner receives a \$250 award; essay in the program booklet
- Category IV: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders; winner receives a \$500 award and reads the essay at the Gala; essay in the program booklet

**ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS**

The idea of citizen diplomacy is that every American has the right and even the responsibility to foster greater understanding between our country and the rest of the world. Citizen diplomacy means that taking steps to build long-lasting peace and international friendship is not only the work of diplomats and politicians in Washington, but that private businesses and even people like you and me in Reno, Nevada, can and should have a role in creating greater understanding between people. In these economically and politically troubled times, it is particularly important that all Americans embrace their role as citizen diplomats to renew our ties of trust and respect with the rest of the world’s citizens. Having a good relationship with other countries is not only a worthy and beautiful goal in itself, but is crucial to national security and makes good business sense. In your essay, try to make the reader understand how businesses and/or individuals (including students) in Washoe County can produce global results through local actions that foster friendship between Americans and the world.

**RULES AND GUIDELINES**

- One entry per person, not to exceed 500 words
- All entries must be the original work of the person claiming to write the essay
- All essays must be typed; single- or double-spaced
- Include your name, address, and home telephone number on a separate sheet and indicate the category that applies to your grade level
- Entries will not be returned!
- You do not need to be a student of a WCSD public school to participate in this contest!

**DEADLINE**

All essays must be postmarked or e-mailed by ***February 27, 2009.***

**Mail your entry to:** Northern Nevada International Center  
821 North Center Street  
Reno, Nevada 89501

**Or e-mail to:** [nnic@unr.edu](mailto:nnic@unr.edu)

*For questions, please contact Dr. Carina A. Black, Ph.D., Executive Director,  
Northern Nevada International Center, 784.7515 or [cblack@unr.edu](mailto:cblack@unr.edu).*