

# AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION LOCAL HOST PLANNING COMMITTEE

## AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### 2008 LOCAL HOST PLANNING COMMITTEE STUDENT ESSAY AND POSTER CONTEST

The members of the Local Host Planning Committee for the 2008 American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting and Exposition to be held in San Diego, October 25-29, 2008 are sponsoring a contest for Middle, Junior, and High School students in California. The APHA annual meeting is the oldest and largest gathering of public health professionals in the world, attracting more than 13,000 national and international physicians, administrators, nurses, educators, researchers, epidemiologists, and related health specialists. The theme of this year's meeting is *Public Health without Borders*. The aim of the essay and poster contests is to get students excited about public health, using the theme *Public Health without Borders*. Winning entries will receive prizes and recognition by the Local Host Committee at the annual meeting, as well as display at local Public Health Services facilities.

#### Who is eligible?

Any resident of California who is an enrolled student in Middle, Junior, or High School (grades six through twelve) for the 2007-2008 school year may enter the Contest. Prizes will be awarded in two age categories - grades 6 to 8 and 9 to 12.

#### What is the deadline?

The deadline for receipt of entries is the end of the day on September 15, 2008. Winners will be notified after October 15, 2008.

#### What are the rules for entry?

Students may submit an essay, a poster, or both. An individual is only allowed to win one prize. Entries will not be returned to participants. Entrants must be the sole creators of the submitted works.

- *Essays* - Essays with the theme *Public Health without Borders* may be submitted in either English or Spanish. The essays should be 300 words or less. The document with the essay should contain the individual's name, grade, and school.

- *Posters* - Posters may be created freehand in the students' desired media (such as - pen and ink, colored pencil, paint, pastel, photography, etc.) or using a computer. The poster should have the theme, *Public Health without Borders*. The posters should be 8.5x11 inches (standard letter size paper). A short description of the poster should accompany the entry.

#### What must accompany entries?

All entries must be accompanied by your name, age, school, grade teacher, home address, and a phone number or e-mail address. Entrants will be notified in writing if their submissions are chosen as winning.

#### Where entries should be sent?

Electronic submission of entries is encouraged. Entries will be accepted in most common file formats (such as Word, Adobe PDF, jpeg's, gif's, etc.). Documents should be sent as attachments to: PHStudentContest@gmail.com

If applications are being submitted via mail, they should be sent to:


Dr. Dean Sidelinger  
Public Health Services  
1700 Pacific Highway  
Room 312 (MS: 578)  
San Diego, CA 92101

#### What are the prizes?

The top three posters and the top three essays will be selected by members of the American Public Health Association 2008 Local Host Planning Committee. All winning entries will be displayed at the 2008 APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition. The winning entrants will also receive a certificate acknowledging their achievements. In addition, all six winning entrants will receive gift cards - first place, \$100; second place, \$75; third place, \$50. Winning entrants will be given a list of retailers from which they can select their gift card.

#### Who should be contacted with additional questions?

If you have additional questions, please contact Dr. Dean Sidelinger at the above addresses, Dean.Sidelinger@sdcountry.ca.gov, or (619) 685-2539.



# 2008 Student Essay & Poster Contest

## “What is public health?”

Think about when you are sick or worried about your health – you go to see your doctor. Well, people in public health worry about the health of all of us – our neighborhoods, communities, and the world. That’s because public health is your health. You are only as healthy as the world you live in. Public health helps make sure that our water is clean and that our air is not polluted. Public health helps get people immunized to prevent infections. Public health works with families to help ensure children are healthy and have the chance to succeed. Public health monitors diseases in our communities and helps to prevent them from happening. Public health also looks at why we get hurt and then looks for ways to stop these injuries – like seatbelts in cars, water safety programs, and wearing bicycle helmets.

These are just some of the things that public health does.

## “So, what do you mean by *Public Health Without Borders*?”

Well, the most obvious answer is, people and countries working together across borders to make sure everyone is healthy. It can also mean working across states, towns, and communities to make us all healthier. It might mean different schools working together – or people from different backgrounds working to solve the same health problem. It might also mean people who do different things – teachers, nurses, and police – getting together to solve one problem in order to make us healthier.

## “What do you want from me?”

We want you to draw a picture or write an essay (or story) about what *Public Health Without Borders* means to you. Tell us how public health has improved your life or the health of your community. We will then give prizes to the posters, essays, and stories that best represent our theme – *Public Health Without Borders*.

The annual meeting of the American Public Health Association is coming to California in October 2008. To celebrate the theme of the meeting, *Public Health Without Borders*, the local planning committee invites you to submit a poster or essay about *Public Health Without Borders* and compete for prizes.

## Rules and General Information

### What:

Submit a poster (letter size paper, 8.5x11 inches) or an essay (300 words or less) that fits the theme—*Public Health Without Borders*—and what it means to you; the poster may be hand drawn and colored or done on the computer. A short description of the poster should accompany the entry.

### Who:

Any Junior, Middle, or High School Student in California; Prizes will be awarded in two age categories - grades 6 to 8 and 9 to 12.

### Why:

To earn prizes (Gift Cards: First place, \$100; second place, \$75; third place, \$50 for posters and for essays or stories), get a certificate, and have your work displayed for thousands of people

### How:

You may submit your work in electronic format or mail a hard copy; either way include your name, age, school, grade teacher, home address, and a phone number or e-mail address

### When:

Entries due by September 15, 2008 with winners to be announced after October 15, 2008

### Where:

Send entries to -  
Electronic  
PHStudentContest@gmail.com or  
Hard Copy  
Dr. Dean Sidelinger  
Public Health Services  
1700 Pacific Highway  
Room 312 (MS: 578)  
San Diego, CA 92101

More information or questions?

Dr. Dean Sidelinger at the above addresses,  
[Dean.Sidelinger@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Dean.Sidelinger@sdcounty.ca.gov),  
or (619) 685-2539