

I WRITE THE FUTURE! - YEAR 3

A CALL TO ACTION, A CALL TO WRITE, A CALL TO GO PUBLIC FOR STUDENTS OF ISAW TEACHERS



THE ISSUE:

Sadly, we don't have to work very hard to see, hear, or read about instances of intolerance today—from fear and prejudice because of differences in religion, culture, or language; to discrimination based on race, gender, disability, or sexuality; to name calling and bashing, bullying, and now in this digital age, cyberbullying. Just one or two words can bring images of intolerance to mind. Immigration. Illegal immigrant. Homophobia. Racial profiling. Muslim. Retard. Short bus. Any and all ethnic and racial slurs.

If you could “write the future,” and make important changes, what issues of intolerance would you address, what strategies would you use to make change, and what solutions would you propose?

THE CALL TO ACTION, TO WRITE, TO GO PUBLIC:

The California Writing Project invites you, the students in the classrooms of teachers participating in Improving Students' Analytical Writing programs, to write and go public about the issues of intolerance you are concerned about, that call you to action, that call you to problem-solving.

You can write your own stories and your own experiences, you can write observed experiences, or you can write fiction. All can be used to describe the future you want to see. You can write persuasive pieces—editorials, commentaries, “My Turn” essays, argumentative essays, saturation reports, or problem solution essays. Poetry, spoken word, letters, reflective essays, and memoirs will work as well.

You choose the genre, the issue, and the message. Writing the future is in your creative, thoughtful, and empowered hands!

SOME QUESTIONS TO GET YOU THINKING AND WRITING:

- ◆ What intolerance have you experienced, observed, or read about? What instances of intolerance stay in your mind and heart?
- ◆ Are there times you observed intolerance, wanted to do or say something, but remained silent? What happened and what do you wish you had done instead?
- ◆ Have incidents of intolerance and discrimination increased, or are they just more visible in our televised and networked world?
- ◆ Are there effective ways to educate people who hold irrational fears of those they think are just too different from them? At what point can we find commonalities and shared humanity?
- ◆ Are the intolerant among us resorting to more violent acts? What can we do to make schools and communities safer places for everyone?
- ◆ What can we do to change our present and write a very different future?



I WRITE THE FUTURE! IS SPONSORED BY THE CALIFORNIA WRITING PROJECT.

California Writing Project, University of California, 4625 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-1670

I WRITE THE FUTURE! - YEAR 3

A CALL TO ACTION, A CALL TO WRITE, A CALL TO GO PUBLIC FOR STUDENTS OF ISAW TEACHERS

GOING PUBLIC POSSIBILITIES:

I Write the Future Team and Anthology!

A team of student winners will be selected to receive scholarship awards at three levels—\$250, \$125, and \$50. Winning writings will be chosen for their connection to the goals of I Write the Future, significance of the message, and readiness for publication. Students' writing will be featured in the 2012-2013 I Write the Future Anthology that will be showcased on the I Write the Future Forum in late spring. See the submission cover sheet for more information. Deadline: February 18, 2013.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- ❑ Submissions must be sent electronically and in hard copy by your teacher and must include the written piece, cover sheet, and signed permission slip. Incomplete information may invalidate your submission.
- ❑ Submissions should not exceed ten, single-spaced pages and should be typed in the Times New Roman font, in size 12, with one-inch margins all the way around. Submissions may be sent in any text format.
- ❑ Submissions must be sent in two parts:

An electronic version of the piece of writing, sent as an email attachment to the following email address: cwp@berkeley.edu. Please list "I Write the Future Submission" as the Subject Title.

Original copies of the writing submission, cover sheet, and permission slip sent to:
California Writing Project, University of California, 4625 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-1670.

A SPECIAL 2013 CALL TO WRITE

For students who are ready to dig a little deeper—an opportunity to read, reflect and write about education, schooling, and intolerance. Students whose essays are selected will earn a \$500 scholarship award. Ask your teacher or link to the I Write the Future Forum for the submission requirements and supporting resources.

Deadline: March 18, 2013.

ANOTHER GOING PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY

California Writing Awards

Almost all of the genres you choose to write can fit into one of the submission categories for the California Writing Awards. Link here for program, submission, and fee information: (http://californiawrites.org/Students/students_writingawards.html).

Student winners are awarded Gold Keys, Silver Keys, or Honorable Mentions. Gold Key winners are forwarded on for national judging and possible scholarships.

Early deadline: November 28, 2012 Final deadline: December 13, 2012.

I WRITE THE FUTURE! IS SPONSORED BY THE CALIFORNIA WRITING PROJECT.

California Writing Project, University of California, 4625 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-1670

I WRITE THE FUTURE! - YEAR 3

A CALL TO ACTION, A CALL TO WRITE, A CALL TO GO PUBLIC
FOR STUDENTS OF ISAW TEACHERS

2013 - OFFICIAL COVER SHEET FOR SUBMISSION

Your Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone Number

Email Address

Grade Level in School

Teacher's Name

Principal's Name

School Name

School Address

School Phone Number

I WRITE THE FUTURE! IS SPONSORED BY THE CALIFORNIA WRITING PROJECT.

California Writing Project, University of California, 4625 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-1040

I WRITE THE FUTURE! - YEAR 3

A CALL TO ACTION, A CALL TO WRITE, A CALL TO GO PUBLIC
FOR STUDENTS OF ISAW TEACHERS

2013 - PERMISSION SLIP

I, _____, am submitting an original piece
Please Print Student's Name

of my writing titled, _____
Please Print the Title of the Writing

to the California Writing Project for the **I WRITE THE FUTURE!** campaign.

I understand that, unless I choose otherwise, my first name and first initial of my last name will accompany my published writing if published online and my full name if published in print. If CWP takes pictures of my class at work, pictures of me will not be placed next to my writing. I understand these policies are in accordance with federal laws.

Student's Name (*Please Print*)

Include Name - Yes or No

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Teacher Signature

Date

I WRITE THE FUTURE! IS SPONSORED BY THE CALIFORNIA WRITING PROJECT.

California Writing Project, University of California, 4625 Tolman Hall, Berkeley CA 94720-1670