



August 24, 2011

Mr. John Hoy
Assistant Commissioner
Academic Accountability
4 Capitol Mall, Room 204 B
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Hoy,

The William J. Clinton Foundation would like to ask for your support of our statewide essay competition, "Ideas Matter Essay Contest." This is held in conjunction with the 20 Year Anniversary of when Governor Bill Clinton announced his candidacy for President of the United States. The winner of this competition will be announced on December 15, 2011 and awarded a \$2,500 college scholarship.

The essay competition is open to 11th and 12th grade students statewide. The entries must be postmarked on or before November 18, 2011. Please find attached the competition details with goals, ADE Curriculum Framework Connections, and criteria.

In order for this competition to be successful, we respectfully request that you provide this information on the Commissioner's website, allowing educators across the state to include their students in this exciting learning opportunity and scholarship.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joyce Willis, Educational Programs Manager, at (501) 748-0472.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie S. Streett", is written over a horizontal line.

Stephanie S. Streett
Executive Director

CC: Tom Kimbrell, Commissioner, State of Arkansas, AR Department of Education

**“Ideas Matter”
Essay Competition**

Essay

This competition is for 11th and 12th grade Arkansas students. In 500 words or less, write an essay on the following prompt:

In today’s interdependent world, there are many challenges facing America. Choose and define a domestic issue/problem. Propose your ideas/solutions.

Send entries to:
Joyce C. Willis
Manager, Education Programs
Clinton Foundation
1200 President Clinton Ave
Little Rock, AR 72201

All entries must be postmarked on or before **November 18, 2011**.
The winning essay will be announced **December 15, 2011**.

Criteria

- Contest is open to students in grades 11 and 12
- The winning essay will be selected based on composition, style, usage, sentence formation, mechanics, and content

Goals

- Increase civic literacy
- Engage and enhance research skills
- Encourage academic competition and excellence
- Strengthen creative problem solving skills

ADE Curriculum Framework Connections

- American Government and Politics
- Civics
- U.S. History
- Economics

For questions, please contact:

Joyce C. Willis, Manager

Education Programs and Coordinator

Clinton Presidential Center Essay Competition

Telephone Number: 501-748-0472

Email: jwillis@clintonfoundation.org