High school students can help celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and West Virginia Statehood

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History, in cooperation with the West Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, is excited to offer opportunities for high school students around the state to showcase their creativity in two special programs.

WANTED: Writers and Photographers

WRITERS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ESSAY CONTEST

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History is sponsoring an essay contest for high school-aged students. Students will submit 450 to 550 word essays on a topic related to the Civil War and West Virginia statehood.

**Essays will be accepted from September 1, 2012, until November 1, 2012.**

- They will be judged on originality, historical content, clarity and language skills.
- One winning essay will be selected for publication in Goldenseal magazine, the state’s journal of traditional life.
- The author of the winning essay will receive a $1,000 cash prize. The teacher of the winning student author will receive a $500 cash award.

PHOTOGRAPHERS INVITED TO ILLUSTRATE LOCAL HISTORY

Our second program is the Sesquicentennial Snapshot. The Division has provided netbook computers and cameras to a public high school in each county. During the school year, students at these schools will have the opportunity to use the equipment to photograph historic sites related to the sesquicentennial. Whether they photograph battlefields, period homesteads, trails or commemorative sites, the idea is to get students involved in the historic anniversary and develop a photographic look of their hometowns. Educational materials will be distributed throughout the year to help students with their photography. Students at other schools may participate as well.

Once the students submit their work, the Division will invite a professional panel to select the best photos to be included in the WV 150 display at the state museum and to be published in a special issue of Goldenseal magazine. Cash prizes will be awarded.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Find information and forms at [http://www.wvculture.org/wv150/sesquicentennial.html](http://www.wvculture.org/wv150/sesquicentennial.html)

For essay contest - contact Caryn Gresham, 304-558-0220 or caryn.s.gresham@wv.gov

For Sesquicentennial Snapshot contest, contact Tyler Evert at (304) 558-0220 or c.tyler.evert@wv.gov.
West Virginians have a strong sense of independence, duty and loyalty to our country. In what ways were these characteristics demonstrated during the American Civil War and the creation of our state?

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History invites high school-aged students in West Virginia to participate in a Sesquicentennial Essay contest. Students are invited to submit an essay answering the question above. One winning essay will be selected for publication in Goldenseal magazine, West Virginia’s journal of traditional life.

The winning author will receive a $1,000 cash prize. The teacher of the winning author, whose name appears on this form, will receive a $500 cash award.

Essays will be judged on originality (30%), historical content (30%), clarity (30%), and language skills (10%). Entries must be between 450 and 550 words in length and should demonstrate an appreciation of West Virginia’s past and present, particularly as they relate to the formation of the state and its 150-year anniversary.

All entries must be received between September 1, 2012, and November 1, 2012.

- The winner will be announced no later than January 5, 2013.
- All entries must be typewritten and double spaced – no electronic submissions will be accepted.
- All entries must include a completed entry form, including a signed statement of original authorship.
- Any entries found to be plagiarized in whole or in part will be disqualified.
- The decision of the judges is final.
- All essays submitted become the property of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, which reserves the right to edit, amend, publish, post, transmit, store or otherwise use the essays at its sole discretion, free of additional compensation or other consideration.

Find information and forms at http://www.wvculture.org/wv150/sesquicentennial.html
Sesquicentennial Student Essay Contest

ENTRY FORM

Statement of Authorship

I, ____________________________, on my honor as a student, state that I have not received unauthorized aid on this academic work. It is solely my own work.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________

Topic: _______________________________________________________________________ Grade: ______

Student’s Name: ____________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________

City: _______________________________ Zip Code: ______________ County: _______________________

E-mail Address: __________________________________________ Phone: ___________________________

School Name: _____________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________ City: _________________________ Zip Code: __________

Teacher’s Name: ___________________________________________________________________________

Subject Taught: ____________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________

City: _______________________________ Zip Code: ______________ County: _______________________

School Phone: ________________________________ Teacher’s Phone: ______________________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _________________________ Score: ______________________________

RESA District: __________________________ State Senatorial District: __________________

U.S. Congressional District: __________ State House District: __________________

SEND ENTRIES TO:
Essay Contest
West Virginia Division of Culture and History
The Culture Center • 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East • Charleston, WV 25305