



# Long Island Language Arts Council

An affiliate of the New York State English Council

[www.lilac.ws](http://www.lilac.ws)

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March 2021

Dear Colleague:

We are pleased to present this year's **Kenneth F. Gambone Writing Contest** sponsored by the Long Island Language Arts Council. As always, students in grades 4, 7, and 10 are eligible to participate. Schools may submit for consideration the work of **one or more students** in each of the specified grade levels, according to the guidelines below:

The number of nominees for each grade level for each school building is based upon the following grade level enrollment:

Under 100 = 1 nominee

100–199 = 2 nominees

200–299 = 3 nominees

300–399 = 4 nominees

400–499 = 5 nominees

500 or more = 6 nominees

The student entries must be submitted by a current member of LILAC. Each student must enter **two pieces of writing** composed on a computer or written in pen in dark blue or black ink according to the following guidelines:

The first piece is a timed, on-demand writing response to the following quote:

***If there is no struggle, there is no progress. --Frederick Douglass***

Only one piece written in any genre may be submitted. The response may be written in class, computer lab, or other school setting deemed appropriate by the teacher, including hybrid/remote environments

*No teacher, peer or parent input is permitted*

**Grade 4** time limit requirement: **60 minutes**

**Grades 7 and 10** time limit requirement: **40 minutes**

The second piece should be self-selected from the student's portfolio to reflect his/her best work. Maximum length is 1,000 words (three double-spaced typed pages with 12 pt. font) -- excerpts are acceptable

The self-selected piece may be written in any genre

Only one piece written in any genre may be submitted

Winners of this year's contest and their teachers will be honored at LILAC's annual spring workshop to be held through Zoom from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm (secondary) and 11:30 am to 1:30 pm (elementary) on **Thursday, April 29, 2021**. Prizes will be awarded to the winners at that time. The prizes for each grade level are:

First Place: *The Phyllis Wilens Award*, \$100 gift card

Second Place: \$50 gift card

Third Place: \$25 gift card

Please follow these guidelines for submitting entries:

If two eligible grade levels exist in one building, entries from each eligible grade level will be accepted, based upon the enrollment in each grade, as delineated above.

The names of students and schools should not appear on the students' work. This prevents any prejudicial judging. Please use the attached cover sheet for all entries.

All entries must be submitted **with the cover sheet as a PDF**.

**Entries that do not follow all of the above rules will be eliminated from the contest.**

Entries must be emailed to [kerinlea71@gmail.com](mailto:kerinlea71@gmail.com) by **Monday, March 29th**.

Thank you for your participation in the 2021 *Kenneth F. Gambone Writing Contest*. Please note that **ONLY WINNERS** will be notified by April 19, 2021. If you have any questions, please email us at [kerinlea71@gmail.com](mailto:kerinlea71@gmail.com) or [ksiegel@mccsd.net](mailto:ksiegel@mccsd.net).

Sincerely,

Kerin Slattery & Kyrie Siegel