



### **E.B. Henderson Dear Editor Contest**

A Letter-to-the-Editor Contest for Middle and High School Students of Northern Virginia

Founded in 1996 and held every spring, the contest honors the letter-writing and civil rights accomplishments of Dr. Edwin Bancroft Henderson. Henderson had more than 3,000 letters to the editor published in newspapers throughout the United States.

**What It Is:** Dear Editor is an editorial letter-writing contest. Ten cash prizes are awarded to students who write winning letters to newspapers on multicultural relations.

**Who Can Enter:** The Dear Editor contest is open to Northern Virginia middle and high school students, including age-appropriate home schoolers.

**How to Enter:** Write a letter to the editor of 200 words or less that responds to an article, a photograph, or another letter published in a Washington metropolitan area newspaper. Students may submit only one letter per year. The news item should relate to EITHER a denial of civil rights to a minority ethnic group OR an acceptance of multicultural differences and how this has improved life in a community. Your Dear Editor letter should express your thoughts on multicultural relations, explain how the newspaper item relates to your beliefs, and tell what can be learned from the information covered. Letters will be judged on clarity, relevance to multicultural ethnic relations, persuasiveness, and publish-ability.

**When to Submit:** Diener & Associates must receive the application package by the last Friday in April

**Where to Mail Your Entry:** Attn: Dear Editor Contest, 125 Rowell Court St, Falls Church, VA 22046

**Awarding of Prizes:** To receive their monetary prize, award recipients are expected to attend the Tinner Hill Blues Festival, the second Saturday of June.

#### **Rules and Application**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Virginia Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City : \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Your letter to the editor responds to:

Newspaper Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Newspaper Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Page Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**To be considered for an award, your package MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST FRIDAY IN APRIL and include the following:**

- 1. This application form**
- 2. Your newspaper item**
- 3. Your letter to the editor**

**Questions? Call the THHF office at 703-241-4109**