



2017 CONNECTICUT GREAT TEACHERS ESSAY CONTEST

“My teacher has inspired me ...”

Great Connecticut educators teach, care for, and inspire students every day. They serve as role models for our children and help to shape the minds of our future leaders. In honor of Connecticut’s inspirational teacher-leaders and Teacher Appreciation Week, Commissioner of Education Dianna R. Wentzell is pleased to announce the **first annual Connecticut Great Teacher Essay contest**. This contest will allow students to tell us just how great their teachers are and will give teachers the chance to hear about the value of their work from the students themselves.

THEME:

This year’s contest celebrates how great teachers inspire their students every day. The theme is: **“My teacher has inspired me...”**

The contest is **open to students in grades 5 through 8**. Commissioner Wentzell will announce the contest winner on **May 9, 2017**, which is National Teacher Day.

The winning essayist will receive a certificate of achievement and a personalized message from Commissioner Wentzell. The winner and his or her teacher will also be invited to attend the Celebrating Excellence in Education event for a special introduction and a photo with the commissioner. Additionally, the winning essay and the top 10 finalists’ essays will be published and shared on our website.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Write an essay, no more than 350 words, about that one teacher who has inspired you in a meaningful way. Be sure to discuss how he or she inspired you, as well as how you have changed or what you have done as a result of your teacher’s inspiration.

Essays must be submitted via email to claudine.primack@ct.gov by Friday, April 21, 2017. Please scan and email any handwritten essays.

The Commissioner’s First Annual Connecticut Great Teacher Essay Contest

Contest Highlights

Theme:

“My teacher has inspired me...”

Who can enter:

Students in grades 5–8

Entry deadline:

April 21, 2017

Winner will be announced:

May 9, 2017

