

2005 High School Challenge Contest

What do human rights mean to you?

The Challenge is a contest that gives Northern California high school students the opportunity to learn about human rights issues around the world. You can explore any aspect of Human Rights that interests you, including things that happened to you or to family members.

By participating, you will have the opportunity to meet like-minded students from other Northern California high schools. In addition, five winners of The Challenge and their schools will be honored at the Human Rights Watch Annual Gala Dinner on November 10th at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The \$250 ticket price will be waived for each winner and their chaperon.

At each annual dinner, Human Rights Watch, along with 400 high-profile business and community leaders from the Bay Area, honors three human rights activists from around the world who have risked their lives to fight injustice and cruelty in their countries.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH investigates and promotes human rights worldwide. Founded in 1978, Human Rights Watch is known for its impartial and reliable human rights reporting, its innovative and high-profile advocacy campaigns, and its success in affecting the human rights-related policies of the U.S. and other influential governments.

The Challenge

We ask students to address the question:
What do human rights mean to you?

Some ideas to assist you include, but *are not limited to*:

On a **personal** level:

- a family member or an acquaintance whose rights were threatened or violated
- a character in a movie or documentary whose story influenced you

On a **national** or **international** level:

- issues such as modern slavery, child labor abuses, juvenile justice and ethnic cleansing

If you have any questions, please contact us at hrw.ya.sf@gmail.com.

Good luck!

2004 WINNER: CHILD SOLDIER
VALERIE LIU, LOWELL H. SCHOOL



Contest Details

FORMS OF SUBMISSION

Essays: recommended length is between 500 to 1000 words
Artwork: we accept originals or photos of all kinds of artwork including, *but not limited to*: painting, sculpture, music (read or performed), poetry and prose

SUGGESTED SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Human Rights Watch website: www.hrw.org
- documentaries and movies
- interviews with family and community members
- the media (newspapers, TV, radio, periodicals, magazines, etc.)

HOW AND WHERE TO SUBMIT ENTRIES

Please label entry with your name, teacher's name, school, grade and e-mail address and submit by mail or e-mail to:

Human Rights Watch
100 Bush St., Suite 1812
San Francisco, CA 94104

E-mail:
hrw.ya.sf@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Monday, October 10, 2005