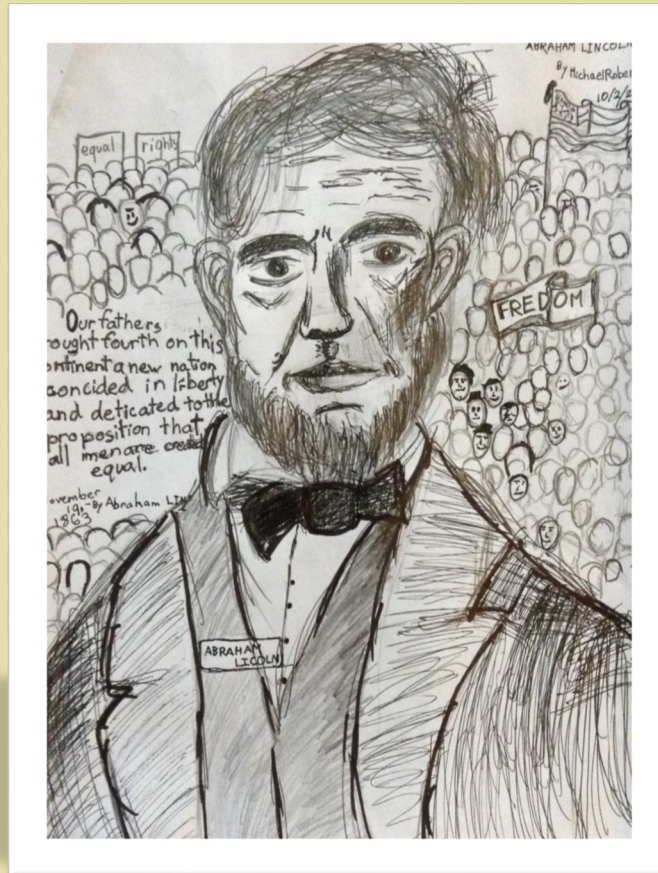


# Forbes House Museum 2015 Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest



*“Abraham Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address” by drawing contest winner, Michael Roberson, grade four, Tucker School, Milton*

**Tuesday, 2 December 2014**

Release of the 2015 essay topic/question and drawing theme

**Friday, 6 March 2015, 5 p.m.**

Deadline for submissions of essays and drawings

**Sunday, 12 April 2015, 2 p.m.**

Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest Awards Ceremony

St. Agatha School, 440 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186



50 YEARS | 1964-2014



*"The Gettysburg Address," by drawing contest winner, Benjamin Catudal, grade three, Glover School, Milton*

**2015 Lincoln Essay Contest Question:  
Grades 6- 8**

On March 4<sup>th</sup> 1865, President Lincoln expressed his views on post- Civil War reconstruction in his famous second inaugural address, where he said:

" With malice toward none; with charity for all ... let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds ... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

Unfortunately, Lincoln was assassinated on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1865 and did not live to "bind up the nation's wounds." If you had been president at that time, how would you have gone about binding up the nation's wounds?

**2015 Lincoln Drawing Contest Topic:  
Grades K- 5**

Visit the exhibit, "Mary Bowditch Forbes and the Forbes House Museum Lincoln Collection," on view in the second floor Local History Room at the Milton Public Library, or view the exhibit virtually on the Forbes House Museum website at [http://www.forbeshousemuseum.org/FHM\\_virtual\\_exhibit/vex1/index.htm](http://www.forbeshousemuseum.org/FHM_virtual_exhibit/vex1/index.htm). Choose your favorite work of art from the exhibit and draw your own version of it.

*The Milton Public Library is located at 476 Canton Avenue, Milton. For hours of operation, call 617.698.5757 or visit their website at <http://www.miltonlibrary.org/>.*

## What is the Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest?

The Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest was established in 1924 by Mary Bowditch Forbes (1878– 1962), granddaughter of China trade merchant, Captain Robert Bennet Forbes (1802– 1889). Ms. Forbes greatly admired President Abraham Lincoln, and in 1909 began collecting Lincoln and Civil War artworks and memorabilia, which are now part of the Museum’s permanent collection. To promote appreciation for our 16<sup>th</sup> president, Ms. Forbes requested original essays and drawings from students each year, inspired by the life and work of Abraham Lincoln.

Today, the Museum continues the tradition, and sends an annual request for essays and drawings from students throughout Milton and Greater Boston. Each fall, the FHM Lincoln Committee, comprised of Museum Trustees, K-12 educators, Lincoln historians and Civil War enthusiasts, meets to debate and select a question and topic. The question and topic are then released to the public, and students must use the question or topic as the subject for their essay or drawing.

Individual student submissions are encouraged. The FHM Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest was established as a civic exercise, challenging students to excellence outside the scope of their regular school work.

K-12 educators are also welcome to introduce the essay and drawing question or topic to their students as part of a classroom lesson or unit of instruction. A submission of individual essays and drawings, gathered into one package by an educator, is accepted and encouraged.

First, second and third place winners are chosen among the entries for each grade level. Essays are accepted from students in grades 6 through 8; drawings are accepted from students in grades Kindergarten through grade 5.

Prizes will be awarded to the first place winner of each grade level. All winners will receive a free Family membership to the Forbes House Museum, along with other surprises!

An awards ceremony is held each year to celebrate the winning students’ accomplishments. This year, the ceremony will be held at St. Agatha School, 440 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186. Some winners of the essay contest are asked to read their essays to the guests.



The 2014 Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest Awards Ceremony was held on 6 April at St. Agatha Gathering Room. Pictured here are first place winners of the essay contest, Thamara Aridou, Grade 8, and Dylan Raimondi, Grade 7, of St. Agatha School, Milton.

## Submission Guidelines:

### ON THE BACK of your essay or drawing you MUST include:

Your name  
Your grade  
Your school  
Your teacher's name  
Your home address  
Your home telephone number  
The name of your parent or guardian  
An e-mail address for your parent or guardian

### Essay Guidelines:

Grade 6-8: 600-word max

Essays will be judged on:

1. Ideas/Voice (The topic, focus, and details make the essay truly memorable)
2. Historical Accuracy/Research (The essay accurately references historical events, quotes, sources)
3. Organization (The organization makes the essay informative and easy to read)
4. Sentence Fluency/Conventions (Writing shows smooth sentence structure, punctuation, spelling and grammar)

### Drawing Guidelines:

Any media is allowed

Maximum size of the drawing is 18" x 24"

Drawings will be judged on:

1. Originality (The image is clear, unique and original)
2. Artistic Merit (The composition, form and color of the art is pleasing to the eye)
3. Historical Accuracy (The art references the topic and shows understanding of who, what, where and when)

### Essays can be dropped of at the Museum office or mailed to:

2015 Lincoln Essay and Drawing Contest  
Forbes House Museum  
215 Adams Street  
Milton, MA 02186

### The FHM will accept essay submissions by e-mail:

The essay should be sent as a word document or PDF to [info@forbeshousemuseum.org](mailto:info@forbeshousemuseum.org).  
The subject line of the e-mail must read: Lincoln Essay 2015.

### In the body of the e-mail you MUST include:

Your name  
Your grade  
Your school  
Your teacher's name  
Your home address  
Your home telephone number  
The name of your parent or guardian  
An e-mail address for your parent or guardian  
Drawings cannot be submitted by e-mail; original works of art must be sent or delivered to the Museum for judging.

\*\*Upon submission, essays and drawings become the property of the Forbes House Museum and remain in our archives at the museum's discretion. The FHM reserves the right to reproduce essays and artworks for publicity and promotion of the museum and its programs, which includes press releases, electronic media announcements, brochures, posters and postcards.

For more information about the Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest, call the Museum at 617.696.1815 or visit our website at [www.forbeshousemuseum.org](http://www.forbeshousemuseum.org).