

Four score and seven years ago our fathers  
brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, con-  
ceived in Liberty and dedicated to the proposition  
that all men are created equal.

## Forbes House Museum 2014 Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest



Abraham Lincoln Reading as a Boy, by Greer Woodward  
2013 First Place Drawing Contest winner, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Collicot School, Milton

**Tuesday, 26 November 2013**

Release of the 2013 essay topic/question and drawing theme

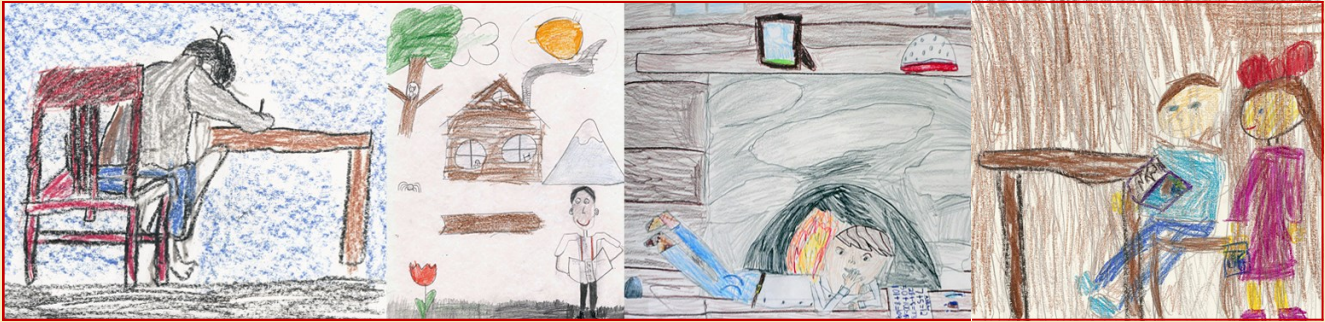
**Friday, 28 February 2014, 5p.m.**

Deadline for submissions of essays and drawings

**Sunday, 6 April 2014, 2p.m.**

Lincoln Essay and Drawing Contest Awards Ceremony  
St. Agatha School, 440 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186





Winning drawings from 2013, from left to right: Liam McLaughlin of Cunningham School, Emma Buckley of Cunningham School, Chris Barrett of Glover School and Mae McKenna of Collicot School

## 2014 Lincoln Essay Contest Question:

Grades 5-8

One hundred and fifty years ago, on November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address, where he said:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

In the Address, two of the most notable quotes are:

“... all men are created equal.”

“...government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

What do these principles mean to us as Americans?

## 2014 Lincoln Drawing Contest Topic:

Grades K-4

Draw President Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address.

## What is the Lincoln Essay & Drawing Contest?

The Lincoln Essay and Drawing Contest was established in 1924 by Mary Bowditch Forbes, granddaughter of Captain Robert Bennet Forbes. 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 and 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 5 through 8; drawings are accepted from students in grades Kindergarten through grade 4.

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's School, 440 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186. Some winners of the essay contest are asked to read their essays to the guests.



Forbes House Museum Executive Director, Robin Tagliaferri, and St. Agatha School Language Arts Teacher, Bob McDermott, pose with the three 2013 eighth grade essay winners from St. Agatha School: Zeline Bartolome, Alana Adams, and Marissa Gallotto.

## 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

Grade 5: 300-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:**

2014 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). Scanned, hand-written essays are accepted as long as they are legible. The subject line of the e-mail must read: Lincoln Essay 2014.

**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 and Drawing Contest, call the Museum at (617)696- 1815 or e-mail us at [info@forbeshousemuseum.org](mailto:info@forbeshousemuseum.org).