

**Hispanic Heritage Month 2008**  
***“Honoring a Legacy, Shaping Florida’s Future”***

Governor Charlie Crist’s Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest  
Official Rules and Guidelines

Governor Charlie Crist’s Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest is open to all K-12 students in the state of Florida. Three winners will be selected: one elementary (K-5) student, one middle (6-8) student and one high school (9-12) student. Winners will be notified the week of **October 6, 2008**.

- Entries must be mailed to Executive Office of the Governor: Hispanic Heritage Month Committee, 400 S. Monroe Street, Suite LL-10, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, **post-marked by Wednesday, October 1, 2008**.
- Essays should address the following topic: **“In what ways does the foundation of Florida’s Hispanic legacy help to build the future of Florida’s innovation economy?”**
- Each student may enter only one essay.
- Essays should be no longer than 500 words in length, and should be typed.
- A completed parental waiver form must accompany each essay. The parental waiver can be obtained on the Governor’s Hispanic Heritage Month Web site at [www.floridahispanicheritage.com](http://www.floridahispanicheritage.com) under the “Essay Contest” Tab.
- Essays submitted must include contestant’s name, home address, telephone number, school the student attends, grade level, title of the essay and a word count. Essays should be no longer than 500 words in length, and should be typed.
- Winners will receive a four-year full tuition scholarship to any Florida state college or university of their choice, provided by Florida Prepaid College Foundation.
- Winners will be awarded their scholarships at the Governor’s Hispanic Heritage Month celebration to be held in Tallahassee in October. All travel and lodging expenses will be paid for the winners and 2 immediate family members.
- Winners must be Florida Residents and be able to provide a Social Security number.

Contact the Governor’s Office at (850) 410-0501 for any further questions.

**2008 Parental Waiver**

**Hispanic Heritage Month: “Honoring a Legacy, Shaping Florida’s Future”**

Student Name:

Grade Level:

Name of School:

Home Mailing Address:

Home Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

***Release Statement:***

As parent or guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay. Should he or she win the essay contest, I agree to allow the essay to be distributed publicly. I also understand that if it is discovered my child plagiarized or that the thoughts expressed are not his or her own, the essay will be subject to disqualification.

**Signature or parent name and contact phone number:**

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**Parent Signature**

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**Parent Name (print)**

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**Parent Telephone Number**