



Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc.
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Press Release

Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will celebrate the 29th Anniversary of the Annual Essay Contest Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 28, 2016.

The mission of Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. is to foster, promote and preserve the Hispanic heritage and culture in the Tampa Bay area.

Tampa, FL - May 18th, 2016: Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. will hold its 29th Annual Essay Contest Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 28, 2016. The Essay Contest celebrates the achievements in writing by middle and high school students of Hillsborough County and the Tampa Bay area. Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. has sponsored the Essay Contest for the past 28 years in order to heighten the awareness of the Hispanic culture and its many contributions to our community, state and country. The Awards Brunch will be held at the Columbia Restaurant located in Ybor City at 9:30 AM. This year's essay theme is **“Overcoming Challenges: Hispanics in the United States.”** The 2016 Essay Contest winners are:

Category I: Grades 6-8 English

- 1st Place: William Ford** - 7th Grade
Williams Middle Magnet
Teacher: Elizabeth Padilla- Garay
- 2nd Place: Sarah Torres** - 8th Grade
Incarnation Catholic School
Teacher: Maria Casanas
- 3rd Place: Stefany Sosa** - 8th Grade
Pierce Middle School
Teacher: Dolores J. McGrath

Category II: Grades 6-8 Spanish

- 1st Place: Yohana de la Caridad Elías-Pérez** - 8th Grade
Farnell Middle School
Teacher: Denise Barnes
- 2nd Place: Allison Candia** - 6th Grade
Davidsen Middle School
Teacher: Luz M. Legra
- 3rd Place: Luz Rodriguez** - 7th Grade
Davidsen Middle School
Teacher: Luz M. Legra

Category III: Grades 9-12 English

- 1st Place: Sky Russell** - 12th Grade
Freedom High School
Teacher: Marta Gil
- 2nd Place: Marisa Murray** - 11th Grade
Tampa Bay Technical High School
Teacher: Elizabeth Galan-Vega
- 3rd Place: Leonardo Cornejo** - 10th Grade
A.P. Leto High School
Teacher: Angela Miranda

Category IV: Grades 9-12 Spanish

- 1st Place: Carlos Garcia Pérez** - 10th Grade
Gaither High School
Teacher: Patrick Geanconteri
- 2nd Place: Jana El Chehour** - 12th Grade
Tampa Bay Technical High School
Teacher: Annette Suarez
- 3rd Place: Alejandro Cano Builes** - 11 Grade
Riverview High School
Teacher: Maria E. Parrilla

The cost of the Brunch is \$25.00 per person. Winning students, their teacher, and one parent are complimentary. Please RSVP to Dr. Luz P. Lono at (813) 949-9271 or at luzlono@verizon.net. Please visit us at www.tampahispanic.org or Facebook.

Sponsors: Helios Education Foundation, TELEMUNDO, CENTRO Tampa, The Tampa Bay Times, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Hillsborough Community College, Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), Tampa Electric Company (TECO), Tampa Bay History Center, USAmeribank, Enrique Woodroffe Architects, Bright House, MEDCOGLOBAL, Maruchi Azorin Blanco, Dr. Maria Vizcarra, Damaris Soto Frassica, MDM Graphics Studio

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