



DEKALB COUNTY KEYS ESSAY CONTEST

DeKalb County KEYS (Keep Encouraging Youth to Succeed) is sponsoring an essay contest to encourage students to recognize someone who has been a positive influence in their life. The theme for the essay is "Who you are makes a difference." Students can win a cash prize, have their essay published in a book, and potentially even have their "positive influence" publicly recognized at the DeKalb County KEYS annual county-wide asset awards ceremony (May 2010).

Description, Prizes & Deadline: The DeKalb County KEYS Initiative engages the community to build developmental assets with our youth through education, practice and promotion. KEYS is sponsoring this contest as a way to recognize the adults in DeKalb County that are building assets with youth. First prize is \$100; second prize is \$75; and third prize is \$50. Essays submitted to the contest may be selected to be included in the 2010 DeKalb County Asset Builders publication. In addition, all essay submissions will be accepted as official nominations for the 2010 DeKalb County KEYS annual county-wide asset awards ceremony.

The entry deadline for this contest is February 15, 2010. Essay contest winners will be selected by members of DeKalb County KEYS and notified in March 2010.

Eligibility: The contest is open to all DeKalb County students enrolled in grades 6 - 12 during the 2009-2010 academic year, or homeschooled students in an equivalent grade level.

Format and Contents: All essays should be one to two pages in length. Please submit neat and legible essays (double spaced, typed preferred). Essays will be judged on originality, clarity and cleanliness.

Include your name, age, address, telephone number, school and grade on the essay. All entries become the property of DeKalb County KEYS. Essays chosen for the 2010 DeKalb County Asset Builders publication will be requested to re-submit their essay electronically.

Essays should be sent to: DeKalb County KEYS
c/o Kishwaukee Family YMCA
2500 W. Bethany Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

Or send electronically to Mary Hess at mhess@kishymca.org