

TO ENTER:

Essays can be mailed to:

Rita Brasen
Ammerman Campus Library
Suffolk Community College
533 College Road
Selden, NY 11784

Essays also can be e-mailed in
Word, Rich-text or PDF format
to: Essay @moriches-bay.com

All essays must be submitted by
January 15, 2009 to be eligible for
the contest. Essays should include
the name, address, grade and
phone number of the person
submitting the essay. Essays or
other media will not be returned.
Winners will be announced on
April 1, 2009.

For more information about the
Suffolk County Library
Association's Intellectual Freedom
Committee please visit -
<http://www.scla.net/IF>

For more information about the
Suffolk Chapter of the New York
Civil Liberties Union, please visit -
<http://www.suffolknyclu.org/>

First Amendment to the United States Constitution

Ratified December 15, 1791

*Congress shall make no
law respecting an
establishment of
religion, or prohibiting
the free exercise thereof;
or abridging the freedom
of speech, or of the
press; or the right of the
people peaceably to
assemble, and to
petition the Government
for a redress of
grievances.*

- 1st Amendment

“What does Freedom of **RELIGION**

Mean to Me?”

Essay Contest



Co-sponsored by

The Suffolk County Library
Association's Intellectual Freedom
Committee

&

The Suffolk Chapter of the New York
Civil Liberties Union

“WHAT DOES FREEDOM OF RELIGION MEAN TO ME?”

In this essay contest, participants will discuss why they think the freedom to practice (or not practice) religion is important in the United States and how freedom of religion impacts their lives. Participants can include photos, sound, video clips and other media along with their essays, but it is not required.

ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to all Suffolk residents. Entries will be divided into five grade groups:

- Kindergarten -3rd Grade: At least 50, no more than 150 words
- 4th – 6th Grade: At least 150, no more than 500 words
- 7th – 9th Grade: At least 250, no more than 1,000 words
- 10th -12th Grade: At least 250, no more than 1,000 words
- Adult - At least 250 words, no more than 1,000 words

CRITERIA

- Originality/Creativity
- Clarity/Grammar
- Persuasiveness

PRIZES

There will be three prizes awarded in each of the five age groups. The first-place winner in each age group will be invited to read their essay at the SCLA's 5th Annual Intellectual Freedom Conference on and will be invited to the NYCLU Awards luncheon.

- 1st Place Prize - Apple iPod MP3 player, two tickets to the NYCLU awards luncheon
- 2nd Place Prize - \$50 Gift Certificate to Border's Books and Music
- 3rd Place Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate to Blockbuster Video

JUDGES

Judges will include members of the Suffolk Chapter of the NYCLU; Suffolk County Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee; Long Island Educators for Academic Freedom; Suffolk BOCES School Library System and Brookhaven League of Women Voters. It will include librarians, elementary and secondary school teachers, college professors and lay people. If you are interested in serving as a judge for this contest, please contact Kevin McCoy at mccoykj@sunysuffolk.edu.

