



Biomedical Breakthroughs and My Life
2009 Essay Contest

Deadline for entry **March 9, 2009** - Winners announced April 17, 2009
'Intent to Participate Online Registration' requested from teachers by December 8, 2008

"The Awards day at the Allen Institute for Brain Science was impressive. Our son had a fantastic day touring the facility and doing some hands-on lab activity. It definitely was inspirational to his personal interest in science."
Parent of W. WA student winner

The Northwest Association for Biomedical Research (NWABR)
invites your 7th and 8th grade students to participate in the
2009 'Biomedical Breakthroughs and My Life' essay competition

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

- Students learn about the importance of biomedical research and how both animal studies and human clinical trials contribute to medical breakthroughs.
- Students write a short essay describing the impacts biomedical research has had on their lives, the lives of family members, or on their pets.
- Student may enter either in the essay category or the ESL essay category (ESL students are classified as those with 5 years or less ESL learning).

HOW ARE WINNERS SELECTED?

- Scientists review all submissions and provide every student with individual feedback.
- Regional winners will be selected from the following three geographic areas: Western WA, OR, and Inland Northwest (Central/Eastern WA, ID, and MT).

WHAT ARE THE AWARDS?

- Regional winners will receive \$100, \$75, and \$50 for First, Second, and Third Place, respectively.
- Overall winners in both essay and ESL/ELL essay categories and will receive \$200, \$150, and \$125 for First, Second, and Third place, respectively.
- The top three essay and ESL/ELL essay students in the Western WA region, along with their teachers and parents, will be invited to a research facility in the spring of 2009 for a tour.

HOW CAN NWABR HELP?

- Contest details, links to registration, examples of previous winning essays, and background resources are available on the NWABR website, www.nwabr.org/education/contest.html
- Scientists from our **Speakers' Bureau** may be available to speak to, or communicate with, your class about research issues.
- NWABR's "For the Greater Good" curriculum presents many issues and perspectives around the use of animals in research.

Please share these materials with your colleagues throughout your school district. Let us know if you would like additional information or if we can support your teaching in other ways. We encourage you to visit our website, www.nwabr.org, or to call us at 206.957.3337 to learn more about our educational resources. Thanks in advance for your interest in our programs. We welcome your partnership in educating students about the importance of biomedical research!

Sincerely,

Reitha S. Weeks, Ph.D.

NWABR Resident Scientist and Program Manager