

FOCAL

Essay Contest



The **FOCAL Essay Contest** is open to students of grades 3 through 8. Three winners will be selected, one each from grades 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8. Each winner will receive two free tickets to the luncheon honoring this year's winner of the FOCAL Award, a signed copy of the award-winning book, and a chance to meet the author at the FOCAL Award luncheon on Saturday, January 15, 2011. Essays must be postmarked no later than Friday, November 10, 2010 and the winners will be notified by December 15, 2010.

CONTEST RULES

Entries should include the following: **1)** Discuss your personal reaction to this book; **2)** describe a character or scene that you found memorable and tell why; and **3)** explain why you would like to meet the author.

WRITING GUIDELINES

Entries should be no longer than 300 words. Shorter entries are acceptable. Please include the word count at the bottom of the page. Essays that exceed 300 words will be disqualified.

Entries should be submitted on plain white paper, preferably typed. Handwritten entries should be written in black pen on lined paper. Whether handwritten or typed, all entries should be final edited copies with all errors corrected. Entries sent on 'cute' paper or with illustrations will be disqualified.

Entries should include the writer's name **ON THE BACK** of the essay, as well as on the entry application.

All words should be spelled correctly. Entries with misspellings will be disqualified.

No more than 3 entries should be submitted from a single classroom. These, if part of a class project, should be the best of the group.

Winners should be prepared to read their winning essays at the FOCAL Award Luncheon.

The originals of the winning entries will be presented to the FOCAL Award winning author at the luncheon.

Sponsored by FOCAL, Friends of Children and Literature
Los Angeles Public Library

FOCAL



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TO ENTER THIS CONTEST,
write an essay of no more than 300 words about this year's FOCAL
Award winning book,

Redwoods

By Jason Chin

discussing your personal reaction to the book, describing a character or scene that you found memorable and explaining why you would like to meet the author.
Mail entries to Caroline Gill, 4335 Marina City Drive, #534, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 10, 2010.

Entry Form

Student's First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Student's Last Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

PLEASE READ CONTEST RULES on first page
WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED.

Entry forms also available at http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/focal_entry