

MISMR

Michigan Society for Medical Research

ANNUAL		
	ESSAY	
2008		CONTEST

2007 ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



Emily Bolthouse

Battle Creek Area Math & Science Center
Battle Creek, Michigan
Teacher: Mary Z. Lindow
Essay: *Animals Pass the Test*

TOPIC: Why Animals Are Used in Biomedical Research

The Michigan Society for Medical Research (MISMR) annually sponsors an essay contest open to all Michigan high school students. It is part of MISMR's educational outreach program to promote awareness of the benefits and the process of biomedical research, and increase awareness and interest in science. Entries will be judged on originality, creativity (**including a creative title**), command of the English language, and the demonstration that an extra effort was made to learn about biomedical research and why animals are used. Students are encouraged to research some or all of the topics below.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH TOPICS

- ▶ The importance of biomedical research and how animal models contribute to medical breakthroughs or scientific discoveries.
- ▶ Recent new findings using animal-based methods in a specific area of biomedical research and how these findings have contributed to progress in medical therapy.
- ▶ The benefits of animal-based biomedical research for the general population, as opposed to the individual.
- ▶ How animal research has helped or has the potential to impact the following: vaccines, infections, antibiotics, the environment, drug and medical therapy.
- ▶ How animal-based research has aided the understanding of risks from chemicals in our environment, such as: pollutants, drugs, food additives, etc.
- ▶ The laws and regulations governing the use of animals in research and why they are important.
- ▶ Why animal-based research is necessary and the limitations of alternative approaches.
- ▶ How biomedical research has helped someone you know, pets, livestock, or endangered species.

STUDENT & TEACHER AWARDS

- ▶ **STUDENT FINALIST** — \$500 Cash Prize & Plaque
- ▶ **TEACHER OF STUDENT FINALIST** — \$100 Cash Prize
- ▶ **HONORABLE MENTIONS** — \$50 Cash Prize & Merit Certificate
- ▶ **ALL STUDENTS** — Certificate of Participation

*The winning essays will be published in a special booklet and the first place winner will be invited to the Michigan Society for Medical Research annual meeting in 2008. Entries become the property of MISMR and may be reprinted, published, or distributed for educational purposes. **WINNERS ONLY** will be notified by the end of March 2008.*

2008 ESSAY CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS

Please carefully read and follow ALL instructions.

- ▶ All Michigan high school students grades 9–12 are eligible to enter.
- ▶ The **OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM** must be filled out completely. Print or type all information except for student and teacher signatures at the bottom of the form.
- ▶ Each essay should be the original work of the student who enters. Essays must be free of plagiarism defined as: *ALL sources used must be cited in the text of the essay. Do not use footnotes or endnotes. ALL word-for-word information written by someone else must have quotations showing the quoted material, and the source must be cited.*
- ▶ Essays should be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, be 4–6 double-spaced typewritten pages, and not exceed 1500 words.
- ▶ Essays should be submitted in Standard English with a bibliography that must cite several different references specific to the content or argument detailed in the paper: books, encyclopedias, periodicals, and, if appropriate, the Web. References may include documented oral sources.
- ▶ Use standard formats for documenting sources of information in research papers. The following are standard formats for basic bibliographic information:
 - BOOKS**
Author. Title: Subtitle. Place of publication: Publisher, Date.
 - MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**
Author. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical Volume # (Date): Pages.
 - WEBSITE OR WEBPAGE**
Author (if available). "Title of page." Editor, Date, Institution, [cited Access Date]. URL.
 - ARTICLE FROM AN ENCYCLOPEDIA**
Author. "Title of Article." Title of Encyclopedia." Date.
- ▶ Entries accepted any time prior to the deadline but must be postmarked by **December 18, 2007**.
- ▶ Send entries to:
MISMR Essay Contest • P.O. Box 3237 • Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3237

***** Essays That Do Not Comply With the Contest Rules & Regulations Will Be Disqualified *****