

The University of Alabama's College of Communication & Information Sciences is pleased to announce the thirteenth annual To Kill a Mockingbird Essay Contest. The Honors College at The University of Alabama inaugurated this contest on the occasion of Ms. Lee's 2001 induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor. Lee is also an inductee of the Communication Hall of Fame, and C&IS is excited to continue this great tradition. The contest is open to 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders throughout Alabama.

To Kill a Mockingbird is one of America's best-loved novels. It captures the ambiance and conflicts of small-town life in the Deep South during the Depression. Its author, Monroeville, Alabama native Harper Lee, is one of the most important contributors to the canon of literature of the American South, which is known and appreciated worldwide.

Essay Prompt:

*It has been over 50 years since the publication of Nelle Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird, and an even longer time from the era that novel presents. Since then, this country has advanced technologically, legally, and socially, but Lee's book remains the iconic work of American fiction. What is it in To Kill a Mockingbird that still speaks powerfully to readers today?*

*The essay should be typed, double-spaced, and three pages (600-750 words) in length. Teachers are urged to assist the winning essay writer at their schools by editing the papers for spelling errors, errors of fact, and basic grammar. The content of the paper must come directly from the student, but teachers are asked to help the student correct clearly technical errors.*

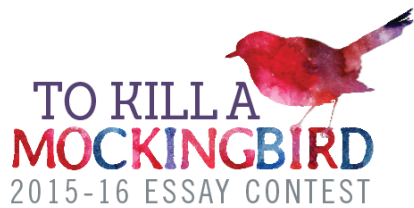
**Each participating school should choose a winning entry, and a monetary prize will be given to each of these winners.**

The statewide student winner as judged by the College of Communication & Information Sciences will receive \$500 and \$500 will also go to that student's school.

The deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2015. The winner will be announced at an awards luncheon for all participating contestants on February 5, 2016.

Please refer to the entry form for further details regarding essay submissions.

For further information, please contact Litsa Rivers at the College of Communication & Information Sciences at [lrivers@ua.edu](mailto:lrivers@ua.edu).



- This entry form is to be used for the winning essay from each school.
- Please print or type.
- The deadline for submissions to be received by mail or email is 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2015.
- You will receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of your school's entry. Contact us if you do not receive this confirmation email.

**STUDENT INFORMATION**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Grade in School (9-12) \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL INFORMATION**

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Address of School \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of supervising/sponsoring teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's email address \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's signature certifying  
this essay as the school's winning entry: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach this entry form, along with the VIN form (attached) for your student to receive a check from UA and mail or email to:**

The University of Alabama  
College of Communication & Information Sciences  
To Kill a Mockingbird Essay Contest  
Box 870172  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Email address: [lerivers@ua.edu](mailto:lerivers@ua.edu)