



2010 ESSAY CONTEST

STUDENT REPRODUCIBLE
Grades 4–8

Write About a Barrier You Have Faced

April 15 of every year marks the anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in baseball in 1947. The Breaking Barriers Essay Contest is a chance for students in grades 4–8 to share their personal stories and show how they use Jackie Robinson's values to face their own barriers.

How to Enter:

1 Write an essay* about a barrier that you have faced. Explain how you used one or more of Jackie Robinson's nine values (listed below) to face this barrier.

- courage
- determination
- teamwork
- persistence
- integrity
- citizenship
- justice
- commitment
- excellence

2 On each entry, include the following information:

- student's name
- student's grade
- teacher's name
- school name
- school city/state

3 Mail completed essays to:
Breaking Barriers Essay Contest
Scholastic Inc.
P.O. Box 713
New York, NY 10013-0713

All entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2010.

*All essays must be factual and based on the student's real-life experience. Fictional stories will be disqualified.

RULES: NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. All students who are legal residents of the United States and Canada (excluding Quebec) and who are currently enrolled in grades 4–8 are eligible to enter, except for those who have family members employed by Major League Baseball Properties, Inc., Major League Baseball Enterprises, Inc., MLB Advanced Media, L.P., MLB Advanced Media, Inc., MLB Media Holdings, Inc., MLB Media Holdings, L.P., MLB Online Services, Inc., the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball (the "BOC"), the Major League Baseball Clubs, Major League Baseball Players Association, The MLB Network, LLC, or Scholastic Inc. ("Scholastic"). Limit one entry per person. All entries become the property of the BOC and will not be returned.

Selection of Winners: Essays will be evaluated on the following criteria: how well the essay expresses the student's barrier; how well the essay expresses how one or more of the values—*courage, determination, teamwork, persistence, integrity, citizenship, justice, commitment, and excellence*—is used to face and/or overcome the barrier; how well the essay is organized to express what the writer wants to say; how effective the essay is in expressing the writer's point of view. Correct grammar and spelling will also be considered. Entries submitted will be judged by Scholastic and the BOC. Winners will be notified on or about March 29, 2010. All winners and their respective parent/legal guardian will be required to sign, notarize, and return an affidavit of eligibility/release of liability within ten (10) days of date of notification or an alternate winner may be selected.

Prizes: One (1) **GRAND PRIZE winner** will receive a trip for two to the 2010 MLB All-Star Game in Anaheim, CA; a laptop computer and a laptop computer for his/her teacher; a class visit from Sharon Robinson; and one class set of *Promises to Keep* books and Breaking Barriers T-shirts. **Four (4) FIRST PRIZE winners** (two in grades 4–5 and two in grades 6–8) will each receive a laptop computer and a laptop computer for his/her teacher; a class visit from Sharon Robinson; and one class set of books and T-shirts. **Four (4) SECOND PRIZE winners** (two in grades 4–5 and two in grades 6–8) will each receive a laptop computer and one class set of *Promises to Keep* books and Breaking Barriers T-shirts. In the event of prize unavailability, a prize of equal or greater value will be awarded as determined by the sole discretion of BOC. No cash substitutions for prizes. Prizes are nontransferable. Void where prohibited.

Visit MLB.com/BREAKINGBARRIERS for additional copies of this contest entry page and for complete Official Rules.



2009 Grand Prize Essay Contest winner Natalie Meiselwitz of Cleveland, WI, with Sharon Robinson and Tim Brosnan, Executive Vice President, MLB, at the 2009 MLB® All-Star Game® in St. Louis, MO.

You Could Win:

- A trip to the 2010 Major League Baseball® All-Star Game® in Anaheim, CA
- A laptop computer for you and one for your teacher
- A class visit from Sharon Robinson, daughter of Jackie Robinson, and a class set of her book *Promises to Keep*