

Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group

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October 1, 2018

Dear Educators:

This is a gentle reminder that the 6th Annual Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group Essay and Video Competition's deadline is December 31. Early submissions to hlackslegacy@gmail.com are invited. Kindly direct students to the HLLG website (HenriettaLacksLegacyGroup.org) for model essays and letters. Open to all middle, high, and home schooled students, the competition is designed to extend the extraordinary legacy of Mrs. Lacks to new generations of students.

Mrs. Lacks is best recognized for her immortal HeLa cells, as they are known in the medical research complex. Her cells have been used in research that led to the development of the Polio vaccine and for the development of the cancer drugs tamoxifen as well as chemotherapy.

The Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group (HLLG) is a non-profit (501 c 3) organization that exists to protect, preserve, and promote the legacy of Henrietta Lacks and her contributions to modern medicine (via HeLa Cells) and the conversations around health equity. It also exists to serve as a clearing house for activities that extend Lacks' legacy and historic of Turner Station, Maryland, where Lacks resided at the time of her death. The Annual Essay and Video Competition is one of the ways we meet our mission.

We appreciate educators who spotlight her amazing story in their language arts, science, and social science classrooms. Enclosed please find a flyer for the competition and note that special needs students are invited to submit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adele Newson-Horst

Vice-President, HLLG

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Sixth Annual Essay and Video Competition

The Henrietta Lacks Legacy (HLLG) Group invites your submissions to the 6th Annual Essay and Video Competition. Open to high school, middle school, and home school students across the country.

First Prize: \$125.00

Second Prize: \$100.00

Third Prize: \$75.00

Eligibility:

All high school, middle school, and home school students across the United States.

Special Needs Students:

The competition is also open to special needs students in high and middle schools. Submissions may include text and graphics/artwork and address one of the two assignments below, depending on grade level, and sent to: HLLG, PO Box 21882, Turner Station, MD 21222.

Specifications:

High school students must submit a 300-word typed essay on the contributions of Mrs. Lacks to modern medicine and why it is important to remember her today.

Middle school students must compose a letter to Mrs. Lacks. Reflect on her contributions to modern medicine and how the use of her cells has affected you or your family. The strongest entries will reflect not only on her history but also emphasize why her legacy is so important to remember today.

Video submissions should include a multi-media video clip (of images, interviews, etc.), reflecting on the contributions of Henrietta Lacks to modern medicine and why it is so important to remember her legacy today, not to exceed 3 minutes in length.

All submissions must include: Student's full name, grade, name of teacher / parent, name of school, city, state, and email address of teacher/parent. Please do not send student's email address. **Deadline:** Monday, December 31, 2018 at Midnight; Send submission to: hllackslegacy@gmail.com

Visit us at: HenriettaLacksLegacyGroup.org

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