



Good Schools
Pennsylvania

Every Kid Counts.

Good Schools Pennsylvania Announces the Winners in the Statewide Essay Contest

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MORE INFORMATION:

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Good Schools Pennsylvania is pleased to announce the winners of the annual Jonathan Kozol Student Testimonial Contest for excellence in writing or photography on the crisis in public education in Pennsylvania.

The first place winner in the high school essay contest was Hannah Conner, a tenth grader at Council Rock High School North, in Newtown. Conner's narrative explained the opportunities denied to our students because of an inadequate education. Conner wrote, "Permeating countries across the globe is an evil, which we in America believe ourselves to be above – ignorance due to poverty... Unfortunately, the American government's neglect to properly fund public schools has made this a reality in the United States."

The first place winner in the college essay contest was Jacob Winterstein, a junior at Temple University, in Philadelphia. Winterstein, a former Philadelphia public school student, chose to tell his story in prose. He wrote, "50 years later; and who you are and the neighborhood you live in; still determines the education that you're given."

The first place winner in the high school photography contest was Gary Chau, student at JR Masterman High School, in Philadelphia. Chau chose to show the dilapidated school facilities and obvious inequity through photography.

All of the winners' works can be found on the website:

http://www.goodschoolspa.org/take_action/speak.php

Good Schools would like to thank all those who submitted essays and photographs for the contest, and who helped raise the visibility of the issue by telling their story and sharing their images. The essays and photographs captured the true spirit of Mr. Kozol's work.

Long-time social activist Jonathan Kozol is the author of thirteen award-winning books that focus on the plight of disadvantaged children in our nation. Students that participated in the contest were encouraged to learn about the public education crisis through research provided on education reform websites and by reading Mr. Kozol's works, which examines the disparities in America's public school system.

Good Schools Pennsylvania is a state-wide network of citizens who are informed and mobilized in support of public education.

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