

Objective:

Write an essay and focus on the theme: "Pushing Against the Odds." Write about a time in your life when tough times nearly prevented you from reaching your goal, but despite the obstacles you kept a positive attitude and prevailed in the end.

RULES

1. The contest is open to all Indiana students in grades 5 - 12. There will be one winner from each Division - Division I (grades 5 - 6), Division II (grades 7 - 9) and Division III (grades 10 - 12).
2. Entries must not exceed one (1) page in length.
3. All entries must be typed, double-space, 12pt. font, 1 inch margin on plain paper.
4. All entries must be attached to the official entry form. Do not place your name on the essay .
5. Your essay will become the property of the Gary Public Library once it is submitted, and will not be returned.
6. All entries will be reviewed by a panel of judges selected by the Gary Public Library. Judges decisions are final.

All entries must be received no later than February 10, 2010.

Please submit your essay attached to the official entry form to the circulation desk of any Gary Public Library unit. E-mailed or faxed entries are not acceptable!

Gary Public Library
2010 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
"PUSHING AGAINST THE ODDS"
ESSAY CONTEST

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

HOME PHONE: _____

SCHOOL _____ **CITY:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

AGE: _____ **GRADE:** _____

Check One: _____

Division I **Division II** **Division III**
(Grades 5 - 6) **(Grades 7 - 9)** **(Grades 10 - 12)**

Each winner will receive a trophy, a Heritage Basket, and an opportunity to meet and take a photograph with Sapphire, author of the book *Push* and special guest speaker at the Gary Public Library's African-American History Month Program on February 20 at 3pm at the Genesis Convention Center, Gary, IN.

Gary Public Library
Locations - Gary, IN

BRUNSWICK BRANCH
4030 W. 5th Ave. 944-9402

TOLLESTON BRANCH
1113 Taft St. 944-2795

MAIN LIBRARY
220 W. 5th Ave. 886-2484

DU BOIS BRANCH
1835 Broadway 886-9120

WILDERMUTH BRANCH
501 S. Lake St. 938-3941