



SPCA
SERVING ERIE COUNTY

Celebrating 150 Years of Compassion

Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest

Can you believe that April 2017 marks the 150th anniversary of the SPCA? As the second-oldest humane society in the United States, the SPCA continues to set the standard in animal adoption and rescue, exceeding the expectations and guidelines for shelter operations. Join us in celebrating 150 years of compassion!

Since 1892, the SPCA's Humane Education Department has conducted this contest for students in Erie County. The SPCA is looking for first- through eighth-grade students to participate in our 2017 Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest. By participating you can help us promote our goal of animal advocacy and caregiving.

Lucy Lord, the founder of the Humane Education Department, created this contest to promote kindness to all living things. The contest has been passed down for generations. Judy Silver, a great, great, granddaughter of Lucy Lord, administered the contest until 2001. Even today, ancestors of Lucy Lord participate and support this program for the students, teachers, and families throughout Erie County. This contest has been a family tradition for years and is a piece of treasured SPCA history.

This is an incredible milestone for over the years we have rescued, sheltered, and adopted out countless animals. You can help us celebrate 150 years of compassion by putting your talents to work. Participating students can win prizes by demonstrating their creativity in writing or illustrations helping us build a more humane and kinder community. The Humane Educator of the Year award is a great way for teachers to honor and celebrate the humane efforts of their colleagues.



For questions, additional entry forms, and additional contest brochures, visit the Humane Education Department at YourSPCA.org. To speak with a humane educator, contact Danielle at daniellet@yoursPCA.org

Submission Guidelines

- 1. IMPORTANT:** Each participant can submit one entry. Entry into this contest gives the SPCA permission to use students' work in future events and promotions with credit given to each student.
- 2. REQUIREMENTS:** All entries must be labeled and submitted by a teacher, parent or troop leader whose organization is located within Erie County, NY. Submissions should be mailed by April 21st, 2017 to:

SPCA Serving Erie County
Humane Education Department
300 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224
- 3. BE ORIGINAL:** Entries must be original and may not contain material with a copyright (i.e. previously created and/or trademarked characters, cut outs, or photographs).
- 4. IMPORTANT:** We hope that educators, parents and troop leaders will encourage the students to be unique and creative. Please refrain from having submissions start or end with the same introductions or conclusions.
- 5. SIZE:** The overall poster may not exceed 14"x 20". Compositions vary in length. Please refer to each division for details on composition style and length.
- 6. INSPIRING CREATIVITY:** New and unique entry styles are strongly encouraged. Students can submit traditional entries or alternatives such as poems, interviews, letters, speeches, advertisements, paintings, original collages of photographs they have taken, dioramas/models, slideshows or videos. *Note: please ensure that images do not contain photos of people. If videos or photos are submitted, parental consent must be given.*
- 7. PARTICIPATION PRIZE:** The school or organization with the most entries will win an SPCA presentation which includes an animal guest.
- 8. SPECIAL NOTE:** All creative writing topics are aligned to the Common Core Standards. For example:
 - **W.6.2** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
 - **W.7.1** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

Note to Principals and Teachers: Thank you for supporting your staff and students in the 2017 Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest. Designed to encourage and promote the altruistic acts of educators and students, your school can unite with the SPCA in its campaign to ensure that all living things are treated humanely. Celebrating compassion and creativity, your school will positively change the lives of people and animals. Together, we will see the real power of compassion.

For questions, additional entry forms, and additional contest brochures, visit the Humane Education Department at YourSPCA.org. To speak with a humane educator, contact Danielle at daniellet@yoursPCA.org

Please attach a completed entry forms to each poster and essay.

The SPCA Serving Erie County's Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest Entry Form

Student's Name	School/Organization		
Your Complete Name	Your Phone Number		
Your Email Address	School/Organization Address		
Parent/Guardian's Mailing Address/Phone			
<input type="checkbox"/> Division I: Grades 1 & 2 <i>(Please circle grade)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Division II: Grade 3 & 4 <i>(Please circle grade)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Division III: Grades 5 & 6 <i>(Please circle grade)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Division IV: Grades 7 & 8 <i>(Please circle grade)</i>

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Your Email Address	School/Organization Address		
Parent/Guardian's Mailing Address/ Phone			
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The SPCA Serving Erie County's Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest Entry Form

Special Education Division Form

Student's Name	School/Organization
Your Complete Name	Your Phone Number
Your Email Address	School/Organization Address
Parent/Guardian's Mailing Address/ Phone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education Division: Primary (1 - 4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education Division: Intermediate (5 - 8)

Divisions and Categories for All Poster and Essay Submissions

Celebrating 150 Years of Compassion

DIVISION I GRADES 1 & 2

PETS LOVE US

No matter what type of pet you call friend, taking care of them is an important part of letting them know you love them. Have you ever thought about how our pets take care of us? Describe the different benefits of owning a pet.

Essay length: 60 words. Poster size: may not exceed 14"x 20". See "Submission Guidelines" for NEW inspiring creativity section.

DIVISION II GRADES 3 & 4

EVOLUTION OF ANIMAL ROLES

In the last 150 years, the role of animals in society has evolved. Research and describe how the role of domestic animals and their relationships with people has changed over time.

Essay length: 60-120 words. Poster size: may not exceed 14"x 20". See "Submission Guidelines" for NEW inspiring creativity section.

DIVISION III GRADES 5 & 6

PLAN TO PROTECT

Establish a project or plan to conserve wildlife or wildlife habitats in Western New York. What would this look like and how would you implement this in your community?

Essay length: 120-150 words. Poster size: may not exceed 14"x 20". See "Submission Guidelines" for NEW inspiring creativity section.

DIVISION IV GRADES 7 & 8

ANIMAL ADVOCACY

Animal advocacy has come a long way in 150 years. Think ahead to the next 150 years. How do you envision future laws to help address animal care? Consider subjects like animal rights, welfare, and legislation.

Essay length: 175-250 words. Poster size: may not exceed 14"x 20". See "Submission Guidelines" for NEW inspiring creativity section.

NEW! DIVISION V SPECIAL EDUCATION GRADES 1-8

*IMPENDING IMPACT

Human decisions and activities have had a profound impact on the environment over the last 150 years. Think of what you can do locally or globally to help ensure the survival of our planet for the next 150 years.

Poster size may not exceed 14"x 20" accompanied with an optional brief explanation describing the submission. See "Submission Guidelines" for NEW inspiring creativity section.

**This category has been created to encourage the participation of special education students. Individual creativity and original ideas from all students is our goal. Assistance is permitted in this division for art and writing. Students will be broken into two categories by grades.*

*The **Primary** category for is 1st through 4th grade and the **Intermediate** category is for 5th through 8th grade.*

For questions, additional entry forms, and additional contest brochures, visit the Humane Education Department at YourSPCA.org. To speak with a humane educator, contact Danielle at daniellet@yoursPCA.org

CONTEST CELEBRATIONS

AWARDS CEREMONY

All awards will be presented at a special ceremony on June 14th at the SPCA.

CONTEST WINNERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THE SUBMITTING SCHOOL OR ORGANIZATION WILL BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO THIS DATE AND WILL RECEIVE A FORMAL INVITATION TO THE CEREMONY.

HUMANE POSTER AND CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Three winners will be chosen for each poster and creative writing category as well as for each special education category. Students will receive a personalized medal and a cash award of:

First place \$25 Second place \$15 Third place \$10

AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

The two honorable mentions for the Stevens/Barrett Award for Creative Writing and the Anderson/Lowe Award for Artistic Ability are presented to two students who exhibit exceptional creativity and originality.

WINNERS OF THESE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS RECEIVE A \$25 CASH AWARD AND MEDAL.

THE JUDY SILVER HUMANE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The Judy Silver Humane Educator of the Year Award is given to the individual who exhibits kindness and empathy towards others and the community. Any school employee, educator, administrator, Girl/Boy Scout troop leader, faith-based educator, or after-school program educator can be nominated for demonstrating empathy, kindness, citizenship, respect, and other humane qualities. *(Please see page 6 for more details.)*

WINNER OF THIS AWARD WILL RECEIVE A \$250 CASH AWARD AND MEDAL.



Winning submissions from the 2016 Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest

Humane Educator of the Year

Judy Silver served as the chairman of the SPCA's Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest for a number of years. Her dedication to education and her endless acts of compassion and empathy are celebrated by honoring an educator in our community who encompasses those same traits.

Any school employee, educator, administrator, Girl/Boy Scout troop leader, faith-based educator, or after school program educator can be nominated for demonstrating empathy, kindness, citizenship, respect, and other humane qualities. The Humane Educator of the Year will be honored at the reception at the SPCA.

To nominate an educator that you've witnessed making positive changes in the lives around them in Erie County, fill out the following entry form. Then submit the completed form with your written submission to:

SPCA Serving Erie County
Humane Education Department
300 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

If you have any questions, contact Danielle at daniellet@yoursPCA.org

PLEASE NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR ALL NOMINATIONS IS FRIDAY, APRIL 21st, 2017

Nominee Information

Name: _____
School/Organization: _____
Job Title: _____
School/Organization's Phone Number: _____
School/Organization's Address: _____
City: _____ State: New York Zip Code: _____

Your Information

Name: _____
School/Organization: _____
School/Organization's Phone Number: _____
School/Organization's Address: _____
City: _____ State: New York Zip Code: _____
What is your relationship to the nominee _____

Please use a separate paper to answer the following questions:

1. Describe how the nominee displays characteristics of a humane educator.
2. Describe a specific humane act that the nominee has participated in or conducted which positively impacted others in his/her community.
3. Include any additional insights you have for the nominee. This will help in the selection of the 2017 Humane Educator of the Year.