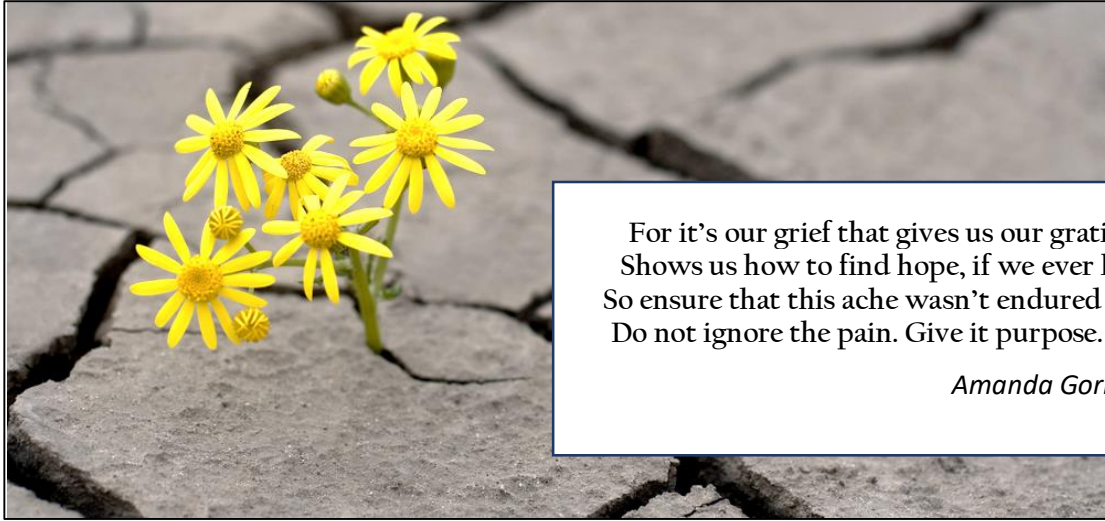


The 2021 Alma Rutgers Defining Diversity Contest



For it's our grief that gives us our gratitude,
Shows us how to find hope, if we ever lose it.
So ensure that this ache wasn't endured in vain:
Do not ignore the pain. Give it purpose. Use it.

Amanda Gorman

Despite trying times and uncertainty, Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman encourages us to let moments of challenge inspire action. Reflect on her words and the events of 2020. Consider your personal experiences, the current social, political, and/or environmental conditions that exist in your community, your town, your country, and your world. How are you giving purpose to the "ache" that you have experienced and/or have been experienced by so many? How do you know that it has not been endured in vain? Please demonstrate your broad understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Students are invited to submit writing pieces, works of art, or multimedia that represent their reflection.



Contest Rules

1. Judging will be based on style, originality, creativity, and adherence to the theme of diversity.
2. Guidelines:
 - a. The contest is open to any student in grades 9-12 enrolled in a Greenwich school, academic enrichment program, or is a Greenwich resident enrolled in a school elsewhere;
 - b. Participants may submit up to three entries but only one entry per student can win a prize;
 - c. Entries may be submitted in the following categories:
 - Writing:** (short fiction or nonfiction), maximum length of 1,000 words (not including citations);
 - Art:** (Photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures)
 - Multimedia** (podcasts, videos, music, film)
Must be uploaded to either Vimeo.com or YouTube.com. Users must submit URL for video, maximum file size is 4MB.
 - d. Submission dates: Friday, April 9 through Friday, May 14, 2021;
 - e. Finalists will be notified on Friday, May 28, 2021.
3. All submissions will be formally recognized through media release and on the website of YWCA Greenwich with their Racial Justice Initiatives.
4. Through the generosity of The Resource Foundation, prizes will be awarded to finalists at the First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee's Award Ceremony on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 12:00 pm via Zoom.

Prizes will be awarded in each category:
1st Place: \$400, 2nd Place: \$200, 3rd Place: \$100

Winners will be recognized and will present their final work at the award ceremony. All finalists will have their entries published in Greenwich Time.
5. Submissions must be made via email only to: diversitycontest@greenwichct.org. Please include the following only in the body of the email: your name, telephone number, email and home addresses), name of your school, and grade level. Do not include any identifying information in document entries or art pieces.
6. Email for questions: diversitycontest@greenwichct.org