# *2010 Edna and Benjamin Shenker Creative Writing Contest*

## Hello Young Writers!

Russell Library is sponsoring the ***2010 Edna and Benjamin Shenker Creative Writing Contest***. The contest is held in memory of Mrs. Shenker, who was an avid reader and library user, and Dr. Shenker, a wonderful supporter of the Library. The ***suggested*** theme for the short story, essay or poem is – **"How I Would Make the World Better!"**

**What are your ideas on how the world could be made better? In your own words, tell us how the world around you or elsewhere in our country or other lands could be improved. Put on your thinking (or imagination) hat – all ideas are welcome. Speak up!**
**Reminder: This is a *suggested* theme only – you may write on any theme you choose.**

**All elementary and middle school students who live in or attend school in Middletown are eligible to enter.**

Judges will award prizes for the best short story, essay or poem written in the 2009-2010 school year by students in grades 1-8. The First Place winners in each grade will receive a $50.00 gift certificate to Broad Street Books, Second Place winners will receive a $25.00 certificate, and Third Place winners a $10.00 certificate. Judging will be based solely on the merits of the entries. All writers are invited to the Shenker Contest Literary Tea on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Hubbard Room, for the awards presentation. The speaker will be Ginger E. Blume, writer and psychologist, on "Write For Yourself."

**Rules:**

1. Each writer may submit one entry only.
2. The short story, essay or poem must be the student's original work.
3. There is no minimum or maximum number of words but the entry cannot be longer than three pages.
4. Entries may be handwritten but must be legible. Illegible entries will be disqualified. **First and second grade entries must be handwritten**.
5. All entries must be on 8½" x 11" paper.
6. Submit the original and three (3) copies with one contest application form stapled on top. If providing copies is a hardship, please let the library staff know when you submit the original.
7. Write your name on the application form only – **not** on the story, essay or poem. This ensures fairness for all.
8. Please do not include artwork or special binding.
9. All entries must be turned in to Russell Library by 5:00 p.m., Saturday, March 27, 2010. Late entries will not be considered.
10. Winners in each grade group will be notified by mail in early May. Unfortunately, due to the number of entries, every submission cannot be acknowledged but all entries are appreciated. The names of the winners will be posted on the Library website – www.russelllibrary.org.

Good Luck! Submit entries to: Director, Russell Library, 123 Broad Street, Middletown, CT 06457
Contest Judges: Liz Attebery, Sunny Banwer, Sharon Cerasoli, Lynn Gamerdinger, Terri Klein, Esther McCune, Michele P. Rousseau, Robert White

>>==========

Received by (staff initials): _____ Date: _____

***Please print*** **2010 Edna and Benjamin Shenker Contest Application**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Telephone Number: _____

School Name: _____ **Grade:** _____