

# Lions WriteOff



Lion President-

I am Lion Christy Trutnau from the Jordaness Lions; I am currently the WriteOff Chair for District 5M2.

It that time again for the District 5M2's WriteOff Contest!! I need your help in getting the word out there for the 2016-2017 WriteOff Contest. It is a full part of 5M2's Youth Projects with Liberty Day, Peace Poster and Leo Clubs. I hope you are already familiar with this project, but I will remind you of its main concepts. This project consists of high school students writing essays and submitting them to your club for judging. Your club chooses a winner and submits that essay to your Zone Chair for judging against other clubs in your Zones. Zone winners are then submitted to the Region Chair and finally the Region winner's present their essays at the Midwinter Convention in Mankato where District winners are named.

This is a great benefit for your high school students, your community and your club. The students are encouraged to submit their very best work to be judged. They experience competition and camaraderie. Your community benefits because it gets to observe the quality of work of its young people. Remember you are not limiting the contest to only public school students. Parochial and home schooled children of high school age are encouraged to participate as well. You are urged to advertise in the local media to get entrants for your contest. Finally, your club is the greatest winner of all. For a small sum offered as a prize at the local level (\$25.00 is a common amount) you get to see the accomplishment of your young people. You might even get a good club program from it, if you invite the winner to deliver his/her essay at your club.

How do you get involved? Those of you who have entered in the past know a system that works for your club. Otherwise, there is a method that works for this service project. First, your club must decide to participate. Second, appoint an active committee to oversee this project. Third, approve the budget for the project which will probably be limited to a small prized awarded. All awards above the club level- Zone, Region and District, will be handled by the District. Finally, let me know if you want to participate, and I will send several materials that would be helpful to you. I have student submission forms, a letter of presentation to be given to the school, judging forms, and rules sheets. I will send or email them to you or talk to you on the phone. My address is listed below and I will do my best to help you in completing the project. If possible I would even go to the high school with you to present the project to your school officials.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Lion Christy Trutnau-  
WriteOff Chair

PS: Attached are the details for this year's contest

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### Proposed Topics

In the beginning of this contest we allowed the students to choose any topic. However the judges and some observers of the program felt that the contest would be easier to judge and ultimately more fair, if we suggest topics to the students. Therefore, I propose the following topic **“Legacy of Service”**, the topic is regarding to service.

Webster’s Dictionary defines a legacy as “something transmitted or received from an ancestor, or predecessor or from the past.” For nearly 100 years, the Lions have reached out to local communities as well as communities around the world leaving their legacy “We Serve”. How do you want to be remembered? A legacy isn’t always about things. In this essay, write about who you are, how you touch other people’s lives, and the legacy you wish to leave behind.

### Timelines

**Club level:** Essays should be done judging by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and sent to the Zone Chair by November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**Zone Level:** Essays should be done judging by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and sent to the Region Chair by December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. **Region Level:** Essays should be done judging by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and sent to me by January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### Other

I will supply more detail when I send you materials; but here are few things of interest as you decided whether to attempt this project.

First, the length should be approximately 500 words.

Second, the four areas recommended to the judges for selection are Originality, Content, Organization, and Mechanics.

Third, prizes at the upper levels are:

Zone \$100.00

District \$ 500.00 – 1<sup>st</sup> place plus plaque

\$ 300.00 – 2<sup>nd</sup> place

\$ 200.00 – 3<sup>rd</sup> place