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The State Senate

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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September 19, 2017

Principal Robert Wheeler
Washington-Wilkes Comprehensive High School
1180 Tignall Road
Washington, Georgia 30673

Dear Principal Wheeler:

It is my pleasure to inform you of an essay scholarship contest for Georgia high school seniors that encourages students to research and critically think about character traits.

As you know, Georgia's character education law encourages schools to help students develop positive traits. The traits mentioned in the law include courage, patriotism, citizenship, honesty, fairness, respect for others, kindness, cooperation, self-respect, self-control, courtesy, compassion, tolerance, diligence, generosity, punctuality, cleanliness, cheerfulness, school pride, respect for the environment, respect for the creator, patience, creativity, sportsmanship, loyalty, perseverance, and virtue.

Please see the enclosed flyer for details about the scholarship, including deadlines, or visit my website at <http://www.senatorshafer.com/scholarshipessayrules/>. Students who enter the contest could receive a scholarship of up to \$1,500.00, a congratulatory resolution from the Georgia Senate, and an opportunity to have lunch with me at the State Capitol during the 2018 Legislative Session.

Thank you in advance for helping me promote this contest. As always, if I can be of any help on this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to call on me directly.

Sincerely,

David J. Shafer
President Pro Tempore

The Senator David Shafer Essay Scholarship Contest was created to encourage research and critical thinking about the character traits that helped make America great.

Essay Question: Under Georgia law, public schools are required to provide character development programming to all students with a focus on developing the following character traits:

courage, patriotism, citizenship, honesty, fairness, respect for others, kindness, cooperation, self-respect, self-control, courtesy, compassion, tolerance, diligence, generosity, punctuality, cleanliness, cheerfulness, school pride, respect for the environment, respect for the creator, patience, creativity, sportsmanship, loyalty, perseverance, and virtue.

In 800 words or fewer, please write an essay about a person in American History who exemplified one or more of these character traits.

Deadline: January 1, 2018 at 11:59 P.M.

Who Qualifies: Any High School student in the 12th grade or equivalent if student is enrolled in a non-traditional learning experience. In order to qualify, you must be domiciled within the state of Georgia.

How to Submit Your Entry: Visit <http://www.senatorshafer.com/scholarshipessayrules/> , where you will be able to copy and paste the contents of your essay in order to submit it.

Student Prizes:

1st place: \$1,500 and an official Resolution by the Georgia Senate recognizing the achievement

2nd place: \$750

3rd place: \$250