

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

One Old State Capitol Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Telephone: 217-785-5030

www.thelincolnacademyofillinois.org



A SPECIAL INVITATION

TO STUDENT LAUREATES OF THE LINCOLN ACADEMY OF ILLINOIS

YOUR 272 WORD CHALLENGE

Dear Student Laureates of The Lincoln Academy,

December 3, 2018 is the Bicentennial of the State of Illinois. It is within this context that I am pleased to invite you to become a part of history.

Below is an invitation, extended by Dr. Carla Knorowski, “Gettysburg Replies” editor and CEO of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, specifically to the Student Laureates of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois.

I hope you will consider accepting this invitation; it offers a unique platform to explore and experience *the power of words*.

In 2013, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, launched an historic project, “The Power of Words” to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the writing and delivery of the Gettysburg Address. More than 1,000 people wrote 272 word essays — the same number of words in the Gettysburg Address. 100 of the essays submitted were featured in the top selling book, *Gettysburg Replies: The World Responds to Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address*. All five living U.S. Presidents at the time, historians, students, jurists, filmmakers, poets, political and corporate leaders wrote essays inspired by Abraham Lincoln.

Now, during the Bicentennial of the Land of Lincoln, *Gettysburg Replies* editor and CEO of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, Dr. Carla Knorowski, is seeking *More Gettysburg Replies* for a new compendium of 272 word essays in tribute to the 16th President of the United States.

***The Power of Words: More Gettysburg Replies* invites current and former Student Laureates of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois to write their own 272 words (no more, no less) on one of the following:**

- 1) Abraham Lincoln;
- 2) the Gettysburg Address; or
- 3) Lincoln's continued relevance in the 21st Century as related to a subject of concern in today's world

Writing a "Gettysburg Reply" offers Student Laureates of the Lincoln Academy a unique platform to explore and experience the power of words, in the "Spirit of Lincoln".

A panel of judges, chosen by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, will select the essays to be included in this new volume.

The essay must be submitted in a word document attached to an email sent to admin@alplm.org. The essay must have a title and the words of the title will NOT be counted as part of the word count of the 272 word essay.

Deadline for submission is **March 31, 2018**.