

NAGC ANNOUNCES NICHOLAS GREEN DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARDS for the 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

The National Association for Gifted Children is pleased to announce the NAGC-NICHOLAS GREEN DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARDS program for the 2008-2009 school year. The awards, funded by the Nicholas Green Scholarship Fund are designed to recognize excellence in young children. The awards, which include a \$500 U.S. Savings bond and a Certificate of Achievement, may be made in every state to a student in grades three through six who has distinguished himself or herself in academics, leadership or the arts. The Nicholas Green Foundation was established by Reg and Maggie Green to honor the memory of their seven year old son, Nicholas, who was killed in a drive-by shooting while visiting in Italy in 1994. The Greens started the Distinguished Student Awards because they felt it was important to recognize gifts and talents in children who are now at the age that Nicholas was when he died.

NAGC works with one state affiliate to select students for this honor. In Massachusetts, the affiliate is MAGE (The Massachusetts Association for Gifted Children). Students are selected in the current school year and the award is presented in the following school year. The application deadline is April 25, 2009.

MAGE is honored to be part of the Green's generous spirit. We look forward to seeing that Nicholas' legacy benefits young children who demonstrate excellence in their endeavors. We believe that this award program will not only stimulate children to achieve their fullest potential but that it will also draw attention to the educational needs of our nation's gifted and talented students.

Guidelines and application forms are available on the MAGE website:
www.massgifted.org

All nomination packets must be completed at the time of submission and include the following. (Please note that no materials will be returned):

1. A composition written by the student nominee. Compositions should describe
 - (a) The activity or interest area for which the student is being nominated
 - (b) How the student got interested/involved in the activity
 - (c) What impact the activity has had on the student and on others
 - (d) How the student's future plans and goals have been affected by this activity or interest area
2. A completed application form submitted by April 25, 2009
3. A letter of recommendation, from someone other than a nominee's family member, explaining why the student is deserving of the award, what sets him/her apart from others and how the nominee is impacting others.
4. A signed release form from parent or guardian granting permission to NAGC to use the

nominee's name, composition and photo in award publicity.

5. A photo (preferably a school photo) in a sealed envelope.

6. A self-addressed, stamped postcard, which will be used to acknowledge receipt of the packet.

Selection Procedure

1. MAGE will acknowledge receipt of the nomination packet if a self-addressed, stamped postcard is included in the packet.

2. A selection committee will review the applications and make the award based upon merit.

3. Selection of the award winner will be announced by September 15, 2009.

4. Award winners will receive a certificate and a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond. The U.S. Department of the Treasury will mail the Bond directly to the winner

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