



## **HARTFORD 375 ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCED**

### **---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---**

(October 7, 2010)--- Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra, Hartford Public School officials, and the Hartford 375 Anniversary Committee are proud to announce an essay contest as one of the marquee events of the City's celebration. This is a way to engage the leaders of tomorrow into this time of reflection and enthusiasm.

The news conference for the unveiling was held at Hartford Public High School, the nation's second oldest secondary school. It was established in 1638 under the leadership of one of the City's founders, the Rev. Thomas Hooker. The building, now featuring four distinctive academies, is located on Forest Street, in the former Nook Farm Literary Neighborhood--- right in the back yards of literary greats Harriet Beech Stowe and Mark Twain whose writings literally changed history.

The Hartford 375 Essay Contest is asking today's students to look forward by looking back and answer the question, What aspect of Hartford's history is most significant to preserve for the next 375 years and why?

Joining Mayor Segarra in today's announcement were Kevin McCaskill, Director of School Design, Jack Balderman, Director of Secondary Education, Adam Johnson, Principal of the Law and Government Academy and Mike Zaleski, Co-chair of the Hartford 375 Committee and Executive Director of the Hartford Business Improvement District. Each of them encouraged all students in grades 9-12 who are Hartford residents and Hartford Public School Students to showcase their talents in this competition.

There are first, second, and third place prizes with the top prize being \$375. Attached to this news release is a copy of the entry form with complete details. This form will also be made available at [www.hartford.gov](http://www.hartford.gov) and click on Hartford 375 Events on the main page of the website.