

# The National Day on Writing

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## The National Gallery of Writing

On October 7, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution, promoted by the National Council of Teachers of English, declaring October 20, 2009 The National Day on Writing. Why a National Day on Writing? Because we, as a nation, are writing like never before—through text messages and IMs, with video cameras and cell phone, and yes, even with traditional pen and paper. Whether it is done in a notebook or a blog, writing, in its many forms has become daily practice for millions of Americans.

On October 20, online Writing Galleries ([www.galleryofwriting.org](http://www.galleryofwriting.org)) will open for viewing. These Galleries are sponsored by organizations such as NCTE, Google Docs, the National Writing Project, the Newseum, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and USA today, as well as nearly 2000 schools, community groups, and other organizations. The Minnesota Council of Teachers of English invites you to explore and celebrate the integral role writing has in each of our lives by participating in the National Day on Writing/National Gallery of Writing.

### How to get involved.

1. Select a piece of writing you would like to contribute to our gallery. It does not have to be creative writing. It could be a letter to a friend, a piece of non-confidential workplace writing, a letter to the editor, a diary entry, an email, a list, a eulogy, a blog post, a podcast or audio recording, a link to a movie you created, or any piece of writing that means something to you. It does not have to be a current piece of writing; it may be something meaningful to you written in the past. (Submission by children under 13 requires parent permission)
2. Go to <http://galleryofwriting.org/galleries/97491> ~ Minnesota Writing Quilt, sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Teachers of English
  - Fill out the profile with your name, email address and a password you will remember.
  - Select the permissions you are comfortable with.
  - Complete brief, optional information (occupation, age range, ethnicity)
  - Complete the survey giving background for this piece of writing.
  - Post your writing
    - ~ by uploading a file from your computer (any of these formats is accepted: doc, .docx, .txt, .pdf, .ppt, .pptx, .jpg, .gif, .tif, .eps, MP3, or .wma)
    - ~ by posting a URL to a site where your work is located (YouTube, Google doc, blog, Facebook, MySpace page, Ning page, your own website, etc.) The work should be located there through June 30, 2010.
    - ~ by pasting in a piece of text (under 500 words)
3. The curators, members of the MCTE Executive Board, will review pieces to check that they contain nothing libelous, unlawful, or invading another person's privacy; that the submission contains no image, likeness, audio recording or work of art belonging to another person; and that the submitted work does not infringe on the copyright of anyone else. Student work will also be reviewed to make sure their privacy is protected.

The Gallery opens for public viewing on October 20.

Writing may be contributed any time before that as well as after the opening.