

Call for Papers!

Soldier's Home:

Reflections on Survival and Homecoming in Homer's *Odyssey*

nostalgia |nä'staljə; nə-|

noun

a sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place...

from Greek *nostos* 'return home' + *algos* 'pain:' **Homesickness**

The Great Books Curriculum invites SBCC students to participate in a campus-wide writing competition. South Coast high school students will also be competing within their respective schools. Students may submit an original expository essay, *or* they may compose an original creative writing piece inspired by Homer's *Odyssey*.

In the 100 years since the onset of WWI, modern wars have presented men and women with new odysseys. Original essays will consider Odysseus' epic homecoming – a return from the dangers of war and seafaring to a home of equal peril - in comparison with contemporary experiences of war, survival, and return. Possible themes to consider include war's power to change, heroism, survival, society and its warriors, a soldier's home.

Expository essays should be about 4 pages in length (300 words per page). MLA citation is required, including a works-cited page.

Creative writing will likewise reflect one of the poem's themes, and the selected theme will be positioned within a contemporary context. Possible options for creative writing include a short story or a poem. To allow increased individual expression, the boundaries are purposely vague for the creative writing option.

Faculty judges will select 3 entries for each of the 2 categories (expository essay / creative writing): 1 first place winner and 2 honorable mentions. First place winners will be awarded \$250.00; honorable mentions will be awarded \$100.00. All winners will be recognized at a special awards luncheon at the Gourmet Dining Room in early February 2015.

Deadline: Friday, October 31, 2014

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Students from all disciplines are welcome!

Free copy of *The Essential Odyssey* for every participant!

October Roundtable Discussions and Lectures!

Please staple this cover sheet to the front of your essay (or creative writing). The essay must follow standard MLA guidelines, including internal and closing citation. The submitted entry must be an original work, one written specifically for this competition. Student must be currently enrolled at SBCC. You may neatly print or type the information below.

Name: _____

SBCC K #: _____

Entry Title: _____

Course number/title: _____
(if applicable)

Instructor's Name: _____
(if applicable)

Contact Information: Address / telephone number / email

Deadline: October 31, 2014 by 3:00 PM to the SBCC campus.

The essay may be hand delivered: IDC Building, West Campus / English Department Office, 3rd floor, room 317. Attention: Celeste Barber, Great Books Curriculum.

Or, submitted electronically: cabarber@pipeline.sbcc.edu