FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Win class trips and more
Student contest: Writing about Place

Hyde Park, NY – To celebrate the National Day on Writing, October 20, THV invites students to write about places they love in the Hudson River Valley. With “Writing about Place,” THV joins the National Council of Teachers of English, the National Writing Project, and others to encourage our desire to write.

The “Writing about Place” contest is open to K-12 students who live and/or attend school in the 11-county Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Elementary students may submit poems in any style. Secondary students are invited to write essays or other creative nonfiction; middle school submissions may be up to 500 words and high school writing up to 750 words.

All writing will be considered for publication on THV’s blog and will be shared with staff at the place written about. Samples from last year are at http://www.teachingthehudsonvalley.org/Blog/Blog/Student-writing-Lost-in-Muscoot.html, http://www.teachingthehudsonvalley.org/Blog/Blog/More-Winning-Student-Writers.html, and http://www.teachingthehudsonvalley.org/Blog/Blog/Student-Writing-2-Tug-Of-War.html

Three students—one each elementary, middle, and high school—will receive up to $750 to cover the cost of visiting the place they love with classmates. Additional prizes are offered by the contest’s cosponsors: Cary Institute, Clearwater, Hancock Shaker Village, Hudson River Recreation, John Jay Homestead, New Castle Historical Society, Olana State Historic Site, Poughkeepsie Farm Project, and Scenic Hudson.

Student work will be read by teachers, site staff, THV’s coordinator, and representatives of NYS DEC’s Hudson River Estuary Program, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, and the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College. Readers will look for evocation of place, a vivacious voice, and use of conventions appropriate to each student’s age and development.

Writing must be received by October 31. Word documents or PDFs, along with signed submission forms, should be e-mailed to Info@TeachingtheHudsonValley.org. More information about the “Writing about Place” contest, including the submission form, is available at: http://www.teachingthehudsonvalley.org/Grants/Grants/STUDENT-CONTEST.html.