

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 09-84 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING STUDENT FABIANA FERRER, OF MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, FOR BEING AMONG THE TOP THREE WINNERS OF THE ACLU ZELDA GLAZER CIVIL LIBERTIES WRITING COMPETITION**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES**

On May 9, 2009, the American Civil Liberties Foundation of Florida announced the winners of the second annual Zelda Glazer Civil Liberties Writing Competition. Among those honored was senior Fabiana Ferrer, student in Ms. Martha Cabrera's class at Miami Springs Senior High School. Fabiana was recognized alongside fellow winners Noel Kasewitz and Bernadette Guerra, also seniors in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The students all received scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 courtesy of the Zelda Glazer Scholarship Fund.

Established in 2007, the Zelda Glazer Scholarship Fund honors the memory and lifelong work of an amazing woman who for more than 40 years worked as a beloved Miami-Dade County Public Schools Language Arts teacher and administrator. Glazer was a dedicated advocate for civil liberties in our schools and community, and she worked hard to uphold our constitutional rights, especially for students in the areas of speech and journalism.

The ACLU of Florida's writing competition is an opportunity to recognize civil liberties scholarship that enhances an understanding of the principles of the U.S. Constitution. Winning essays were chosen based on the student's passion, content, writing proficiency, originality, focus and organization.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 09-84, recognizing student Fabiana Ferrer, of Miami Springs Senior High School, for being among the top three winners of the ACLU Zelda Glazer Civil Liberties Writing Competition

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-84  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING STUDENT FABIANA FERRER, OF MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH  
SCHOOL, FOR BEING AMONG THE TOP THREE WINNERS OF THE ACLU ZELDA  
GLAZER CIVIL LIBERTIES WRITING COMPETITION**

**WHEREAS**, the American Civil Liberties Foundation of Florida sponsors the Zelda Glazer Civil Liberties Writing Competition each year with the purpose of recognizing civil liberties scholarship that enhances understanding of the principles of the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, one of this year's winners was Fabiana Ferrer, senior at Miami Springs Senior High School, who demonstrated a thorough understanding of civil liberties issues in her writing; and

**WHEREAS**, in her essay, titled "*The Application of the Bill of Rights in our Society*," Fabiana writes that even in a post 9/11 world "the United States' principles of freedom which separate this nation from dictatorships" must be upheld; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Ferrer's essay was chosen based on her passion, content, writing proficiency, originality, focus and organization, all of which exemplified a high level of scholarship and understanding of complex social issues; and

**WHEREAS**, Fabiana is deserving of recognition for her scholarly achievement and interest in pursuing important social issues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 09-84 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing student Fabiana Ferrer, of Miami Springs Senior High School, for being among the top three winners of the ACLU Zelda Glazer Civil Liberties Writing Competition.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

**Presented this seventeenth day of June, A.D. 2009**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary