

## 2009 Reading in Common Essay Contest

We've given you the story...now we want you to make it meaningful by reflecting in essay form on Sonia Nazario's *Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite With His Mother*. The essay contest provides all first-year students at Gustavus with the opportunity to personalize the story in order to gain a better understanding of Enrique's experience.

### TOPIC:

- How has the book *Enrique's Journey* helped you to understand one or more of the five Gustavus core values? Those values are: community, justice, faith, service, and excellence. Your essay might also address related themes from the book, including immigration, self-identity, class and privilege, diversity, family, etc. Please utilize the text to support your response.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- While your essay can quote directly or paraphrase material from the book, do not feel compelled to do this. If you do quote or paraphrase, however, please cite this material appropriately.
- This essay should be focused upon *your* reading of *Enrique's Journey*. We encourage you to speak personally and individually about your own experiences as they relate to the book.
- Essays should be typed, double-spaced, and be a maximum length of 1200 words.
- Your name should NOT appear on the essay. Instead, please include it, along with summer contact information only on a cover sheet.
- All submissions must adhere to the Gustavus Academic Honesty policy, which can be found at [http://gustavus.edu/academics/general\\_catalog/current/?pr=acainfo](http://gustavus.edu/academics/general_catalog/current/?pr=acainfo).

### TIMELINE:

- Entries must be received by Friday, August 14, 2009 in one of the following ways:
  - By mail (include a disk along with a paper copy):  
Brittany Salsman, Orientation Coordinator  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 W. College Ave.  
St. Peter, MN 56082
  - Electronically  
Attach a PDF document to an email and send it to [bsalsman@gustavus.edu](mailto:bsalsman@gustavus.edu)
- Winners will be notified via email by Wednesday, September 2, 2009 and announced to the campus community in September

### RECOGNITION

- Three essays will be selected by a committee of faculty and staff judges. The winning students will each receive the following:
  - A \$200 gift card to the Book Mark to purchase textbooks
  - An invitation to dinner with Sonia Nazario during her campus visit
  - An opportunity to serve on next year's Reading in Common selection committee

### QUESTIONS

- Contact Brittany Salsman, Orientation Coordinator, at [bsalsman@gustavus.edu](mailto:bsalsman@gustavus.edu) or (507)933-7598.