The Student Writing Award for the CABE 2021 Virtual Annual Conference, California, will focus on the many advantages of being bilingual/biliterate. The grade themes for this year are:

**Grades K - 2nd and 3rd - 5th**
- How does being bilingual help, you get to know and understand people from other cultures and languages?

**Grades 6th -8th and 9th - 12th**
- How does being bilingual influence your perception of other cultures and languages and promote unity in your school and/or community?

All students will be acknowledged for their efforts. Winners will be selected by a committee in four grade level categories, K–2nd, 3rd–5th, 6th—8th, and 9th–12th, based on the following criteria:

- **Content** - How well the writing captures the essence of the theme
- **Language** - The use of expressive, authentic, rich language
- **Genre** - The creative use of literary forms (such as short essay, poetry, narrative, biography or song).

Students are encouraged to approach their writing with an imaginative and meaningful manner, expressing themselves in English and another language. Teachers can assist students in focusing on the theme by exploring how their bilingual/biliteracy skills will enhance their opportunities for learning, career, leadership, self-esteem, as well as the development of their cultural legacy in their future. The use of the writing process is encouraged (prewriting, sharing, revising, editing, and publishing) to develop a meaningful and expressive literary piece. Each literary piece should focus on the theme and demonstrate final editing quality.

**Criteria**

- Writings should be typed double-spaced, three pages maximum
- Student writings in two languages -- English and the student’s other language
- Students must be bilingual/biliterate or learning another language
- Color photo (high resolution, digital format)

One winner per grade level category will be selected. Students will read their essay or excerpts from the essay during the CABE 2021 Virtual Conference, March 23-27, 2021. Your recognition date will be given with notification letter.

Online entry should be received on or before the January 28, 2021 at 5:00pm (PST) deadline. Submissions received after deadline will not be accepted. Please note that students who have received the CABE Writing Award within the last 3 years are not eligible.