

Announcing the second annual  
Martin Luther College  
*Thalassa Prize*

θάλασσα [THAH- lah-sah : THE SEA]

*This \$1000 award is given to recognize a Martin Luther College Knight who expresses clearly and beautifully, in image and word, a personal reflection on their ministry overseas.*

**Purposes of the MLC *Thalassa Prize***

- To express gratitude to God for the opportunity to serve him in international venues.
- To provide an opportunity for MLC Knights in international ministry to share their reflections, including human interest stories, blessings received, and/or lessons learned.
- To motivate and inspire current MLC Knights to consider serving overseas.
- To bring glory to God through excellence in the arts of photography and creative writing.
- To reaffirm through image and word the dignity of the entire human race and the desire of God to save all people.

**Entrance Requirements**

- Open to all MLC Knights, undergraduate and graduate, who are doing ministry outside the United States (or who *have* done ministry outside the U.S. since 2004)
- Each entry must include
  - A completed entry form (found at [www.mlc-wels.edu/go/thalassa](http://www.mlc-wels.edu/go/thalassa))
  - A color digital photograph taken in a foreign mission field
  - A personal reflection on ministry in that foreign mission field
- Entrants may submit as many entries as they wish
- Deadline for all submissions: April 30, 2008
- Photo and essay specifications, judging criteria, and tips for entrants may be found at [www.mlc-wels.edu/go/thalassa](http://www.mlc-wels.edu/go/thalassa).

**Prize**

- The *Thalassa Prize* recipient will be announced in May 2008.
- The \$1000 prize will be divided equally between the winning MLC Knight (\$500) and an international mission of the Knight's choice (\$500).

*MLC expresses gratitude to the anonymous donor who has chosen to support our global mission and ministry through this prize.*

# *Thalassa Prize*

## Contest Guidelines

### Submission Rules:

- All submissions should include a completed entry form, a digital photograph, and a written reflection
- All submissions should be emailed to **gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu**
- The photograph should
  - Be taken in the foreign mission field in which you serve(d)
  - Be clearly related to the submitted written reflection
  - Be taken by you, not a third party
  - ***Be either a color or black and white digital (a change from 2007)***
  - Be submitted as a large JPG at high resolution (300 DPI)
  - NOT be panoramic
  - NOT be “photo-shopped” or enhanced (The following small enhancements ARE allowed: red-eye removal, cropping, rotating, and one-step auto enhancement.)
- The written reflection should
  - Tell a story about your ministry (Examples: a blessing from God received, a lesson learned, a moving experience, an inspiring moment, etc.)
  - Have a title
  - Be clearly related to the submitted photograph
  - Be written by you, not a third party
  - Be not more than 300 words (no exceptions)
- Entrants may submit as many entries as they wish, each with a separate entry form
- **Deadline** for all submissions: April 30, 2008

### Judging Criteria:

- The photograph will be judged on the basis of
  - Effectiveness in conveying the intended message regarding overseas ministry
  - Quality of image (composition, clarity, color)
  - Style, creativity, originality
- The reflection/narrative will be judged on the basis of
  - Effectiveness in conveying the intended message regarding overseas ministry
  - Quality of writing (content and mechanics)
  - Style, creativity, originality
- The evaluation committee will consist of MLC professors / staff who are involved with *International Teaching Opportunities* and are qualified judges of writing and photography
- **Tip:** Although overseas landmarks and landscapes may be very beautiful, submissions should reflect the human element of ministry—real people, real stories, real lives.

### Prize

- The \$1000 prize will be divided equally between the winning MLC Knight (\$500) and an international mission of the Knight’s choice (\$500).
- The winner will also receive a commemorative plaque.
- The winning submission may be published in MLC and WELS publications, posted online, and displayed in the *Thalassa Gallery* on campus.

# Thalassa Prize

## Entry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am an MLC \_\_\_\_\_ Freshman  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sophomore  
\_\_\_\_\_ Junior  
\_\_\_\_\_ Senior  
\_\_\_\_\_ Graduate, Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Location of my international ministry/service: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of my international ministry/ service: \_\_\_\_\_

My ministry consisted of (briefly) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of my submission: \_\_\_\_\_

**Terms:** By entering the contest, I agree to have my submitted photograph and written reflection displayed and/or published at Martin Luther College, in MLC publications, and in other WELS publications, as seen appropriate by MLC. I understand that my photo and written reflection will be credited to me whenever they are used. **Please initial:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Email to [gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu):

1. This entry form
2. Your digital photograph
3. Your written reflection (300 words or fewer)

*NOTE: When we receive your submission, we will send an acknowledgment. If you do NOT receive this acknowledgment, please contact Laurie Gauger at [gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:gaugerlf@mlc-wels.edu).*