



**Montana Board of Crime Control**

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**Executive Director:**  
Deb Matteucci

October 20, 2015

Dear Teachers,

You are cordially invited to participate in Montana's Do the *Write* Thing Challenge, a violence prevention program that targets middle school students and asks them to take a stand against violence in their schools and communities.

Montana has participated in the National Challenge since 2008; more than 1,000 middle school students have written thought-provoking, insightful essays and poems. Each year Montana's Do the *Write* Thing committee selects one boy and one girl to represent Montana as our ambassadors. They travel to Washington, D.C. with a parent and the sponsoring teacher to attend a four-day gathering of other ambassadors. Parents, teachers, and students attend workshops and visit Capitol Hill. Each year a leather-bound book containing the ambassadors' writings is presented to the Library of Congress. Our students have been invited to read their essays aloud at the Library of Congress and the Supreme Court.

Why should you participate? First, you have an opportunity to provide your students with an opportunity to write and make a commitment to take a stand against youth violence. Second, the student commitment against violence can assist in promoting a positive school atmosphere. Finally, you and your students just may be on a plane to Washington, D.C. in July, dining at the Kuwait Embassy and visiting with your Congressional representatives. Your plane tickets, hotel rooms, and some of the meals are provided; you just may want to bring some pocket money for fun!

The instructions, lesson plans, a copy of the cover sheet for you to duplicate, and a brochure are included; the writings are due to me **February 19, 2016**. All we need now is you! Call or email me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Fischer". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Julie Fischer  
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406-444-2056