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## The 2024 Classical Association of New England Student Writing Contest

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# Announcement

## The 2024 Classical Association of New England Student Writing Contest

Goodness, then, is such a powerful thing that we love it even in people we have never seen, and, more remarkable still, even in those who have been our enemies in war.

-Cicero, *Laelius: On Friendship*

We, as a society, prize virtue and goodness in others. We often emulate others in our attempt to be kind and generous and to be a better person. We read about virtuous people we may never meet (i.e. the Dali Lama) and respect their goodness. Cicero believed that our desire for goodness is so powerful that we admire it above all other virtues. Cicero believed that we admire this virtue of goodness even in our enemies.

But, is this true? Can someone be our enemy in war and still exhibit “goodness?” If so, what does this look like? If not, then why not? Think of the heroes of the ancient world you have read about, both real, fictional, and even mythical. Would they agree with Cicero? Why or why not?

Is Cicero’s statement a call to virtue, or is it a problematic statement?

Guidelines for Students (please note all these):

Application Deadline: December 15th

- Maximum length: 700 words.
- Your project should not be hand-written. Please provide a typed document.
- If you use any source materials for this project, you must provide a bibliography with specific references.
- Your name should not appear on the project itself.
- Please include a cover page with your document that contains the following information:

Name of Student

Grade of Student

Name of School

Name and Email address of Teacher

The following statement - with your name typed as signature:

*This project represents my own original work. No outside help has been provided for this project. I understand that if my entry is selected as a winner, my entry and my name will be published on the CANE website.*

*Signed:*

*Date:*

Teachers: please send your students’ submissions to your state representative for CANE (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, and VT). For the list of state representatives, see [here](#). The winner receives their award, and reads their winning entry, at the banquet at the annual meeting banquet of CANE in spring of 2024.