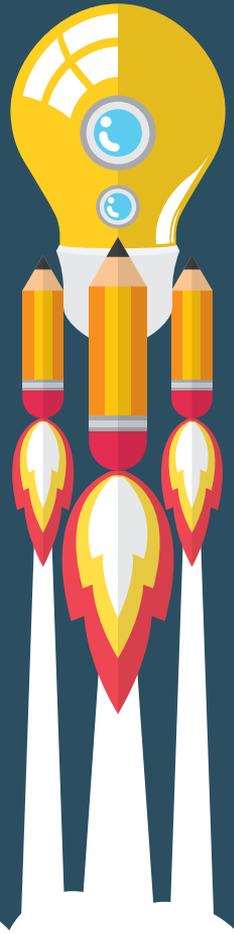


Curtiss EXPLORERS CLUB



Essay Contest

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Curtiss Mansion
MIAMI SPRINGS



Deadline to enter: March 1, 2018

WHAT IS THE CURTISS EXPLORERS

The Curtiss Explorers Club is a research program that offers kids the opportunity to make unique and fun historical discoveries while learning how to be research experts. With guidance from teachers and librarians, students search for a forgotten person or animal in history that has made a positive impact on their community, our nation, or the world.

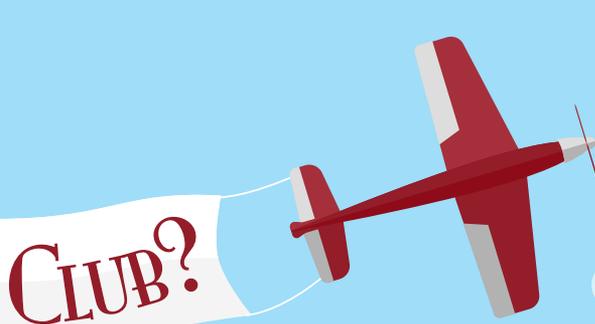
Why should anyone care about an unsung hero/hero?

There are many people and animals that have made a positive and significant impact in their communities, the nation, or the world, but are not widely known and have not received appropriate recognition for their efforts. It's time to expand our history to include those who have been overlooked for far too long.

Where are unsung heroes and heroines found?

Everywhere! Maybe in a book or an article, or in a reference to someone in a movie or television program? The Internet? A family member? Exploring is part of the fun! Just look around. They really are everywhere and just waiting to be discovered by a Curtiss Explorer.





CLUB?

Would you like to be a Curtiss Explorer?

- Are you in middle school or age 11-13?
- Do you live in Miami-Dade County?
- Do you have a Miami-Dade Public Library System card?

If so, visit your local branch library or www.mdpls.org for more information and to join the program.



CONTEST DETAILS

To enter, send your 300-500 word essay with a thesis statement and at least three bibliographic citations to contest@mdpls.org by March 1, 2018.

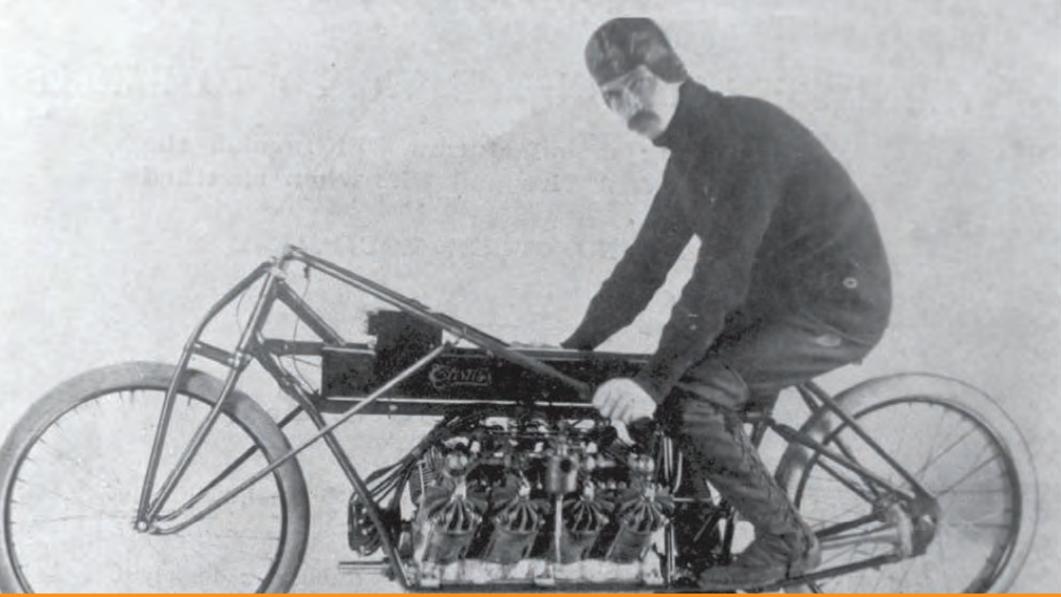
Twelve finalists will be chosen by March 15 and will be invited to present their work at a Miami-Dade Public Library System branch or the Curtiss Mansion in Miami Springs on April 18.

The awards ceremony will take place on May 21 at the Curtiss Mansion. Great prizes will be awarded!

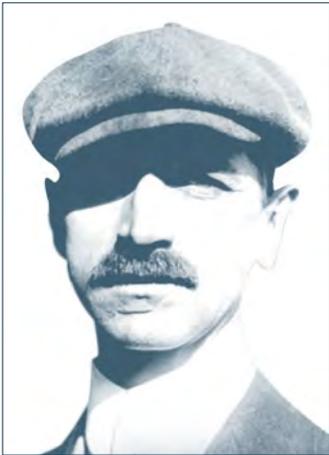
- 1st place - Laptop
- 2nd place - iPad Mini
- 3rd place - Bluetooth Speaker

Employees of the Miami-Dade Public Library System and the Curtiss Mansion, contest judges, mentors and immediate family members of any such persons are not eligible to participate.





THE INSPIRATION



Who is Glenn Hammond Curtiss?

Glenn Hammond Curtiss (1878-1930) was an American aviation pioneer, inventor and real estate developer. A recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross for his work and efforts during World War I, his many accomplishments and contributions include establishing the cities of Miami Springs, Hialeah and Opa-locka, and platting 52 subdivisions in then Dade County. Curtiss built the Hialeah Race Track, Miami Jai-Alai Fronton, Miami Kennel Club and Miami Film Studio, and established Miami's first airport. In 2003, with over 500 inventions and 400 patents (the last 10 of which were created in his garage at the Curtiss Mansion), Curtiss was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Despite his achievements, he is a footnote in history -- a true unsung hero. The Curtiss Mansion hopes to shine a light on him and other unsung heroes while promoting sound research and critical thinking skills among our youth.