

# The Iris Chang & Peter Kolodziej Writing Awards

## Information Sheet

*Iris Chang (1968-2004), who graduated from Uni High in 1985, was the author of three acclaimed works of nonfiction, including the best-selling "Rape of Nanking." Peter Kolodziej (1963-2005), who graduated from Uni High in 1979, was a Harvard- and MIT-trained biochemist and biologist whose work as a Vanderbilt University scientist focused on the genetic factors involved in the development of neurons and the trachea. After the passing of Iris and Peter within months of each other, Peter's brother Daniel Kolodziej offered to establish an award in their honor. Daniel had worked with Iris as an editor of the Unique literary magazine and knew of her passion for good writing. Peter was also devoted to the written word, both as an avid reader and an accomplished scientific author. Thanks to Daniel's initiative, as well as the generosity of Iris's classmates, the Iris Chang & Peter Kolodziej Writing Awards were established in 2006.*

### **Categories**

- Entries will be judged in two categories: fiction and nonfiction.
- "Fiction" is any written work that is primarily the product of the author's imagination. Examples of entries in this category include but are not limited to short stories, one-act plays, scenes from longer dramatic works, and chapters from novels in progress.
- "Nonfiction" is any written work that adheres to documented facts and does not embellish or stray from those facts. Examples of entries in this category include but are not limited to journalistic reportage (news stories, feature stories, investigative projects, etc.), personal essays or memoirs, and academic research papers.

### **Prizes**

- A \$100 check, a book prize, and a plaque will be awarded to the winner in each category.
- Winners will be announced at Uni High's year-end awards ceremony.

### **Eligibility**

- All current Uni High students, subfreshmen through seniors, are eligible to enter.
- Students may submit work in both categories, fiction and nonfiction.
- Students are limited to one entry per category.
- Each entry must be limited to no more than 2,500 words.
- Students may submit work that has been written for a class.
- Students may submit work that has appeared in a Uni or non-Uni publication.
- Students may submit work that they have entered in other contests.
- Entries must have been written between May 1, 2008, and May 1, 2009.

### **Entry Preparation**

- Each submission must be accompanied by a completed entry form.
- Entries, including those that have been published elsewhere, must be typed, double-spaced, and printed on standard 8 1/2x11 white paper.

### **Deadline**

- Entries must be submitted to David Porreca, journalism adviser, by 4 p.m. Monday, May 4.