

Announcing the tenth annual  
Martin Luther College  
*Thalassa Prize*

qavlassa [THAH- lah-sah : THE SEA]

*In celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Thalassa prize, the award will be doubled to \$2000.*

*This award is given to recognize a Martin Luther College student or graduate who expresses clearly and beautifully, in image and word, a personal reflection on a ministry experience 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 students and graduates in international ministry to share their stories.
- To motivate and inspire current MLC students 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 undergraduates and graduates who have done ministry or are doing ministry outside the United States
- 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 world mission field
  - A personal reflection on ministry in that world mission field
- Entrants may submit as many entries as they wish
- Deadline for all submissions: April 15, 2016
- 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 2016
- The \$2000 prize will be divided equally between the winner (\$1000) and an international mission of the winner's choice (\$1000).

# *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
  - Be submitted as a large JPG at high resolution
  - 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 15, 2016

### 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 *Daylight International* (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 \$2000 prize will be divided equally between the winner (\$1000) and an international mission of the winner’s choice (\$1000).
- The winner will also receive a commemorative plaque.
- The winning submission may be published in MLC and WELS publications, posted online, and displayed on campus.

# Thalassa Prize

## Entry Form

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

I am an MLC \_\_\_\_\_ First-Year  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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) or 507.766.2026.*