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Press Release

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Call for Submissions for Fedcap's Annual *Words about Work!* Poetry Contest for Adults and Kids

New Yorkers Encouraged to Write Poems about What Work Means to Them for Cash Prizes

Fedcap is currently calling for submissions for its annual poetry contest from New Yorkers who wish to write poems or essays that articulate just how work gives their lives positive meaning.

All New Yorkers are encouraged to submit an original work of one page or less to the 2010 Fedcap *Words about Work!* poetry competition. Submissions must be postmarked by March 15, 2010 to qualify and should be sent to:

Fedcap Community Relations
Attn: *Words about Work!*
211 West 14th Street
New York, NY 10011

Entry forms, rules, and additional information can be found at www.wordsaboutwork.org or by contacting Fedcap at info@fedcap.org or 212-727-4200.

Fedcap's *Words about Work!* contest began in 2001 as a way to recognize Fedcap clients who have graduated from our job training programs, overcome barriers, and found employment. By opening up the contest to the general public Fedcap hopes to build community awareness and bring people of various backgrounds together to reflect on what work means to each of us, especially in this difficult economy with ever rising unemployment.

Words about Work! will also spotlight the difficult employment-related barriers certain groups like returning veterans, residents of economically disadvantaged areas like the south Bronx, and young people exiting the foster care system, face every day. The particular challenges these groups face tend to go unnoticed and Fedcap encourages participation from these groups and others facing barriers to employment.

Previous *Words about Work!* winners have written about how their jobs have brought them greater independence, dignity, self-respect, confidence, and the barriers they overcame in order to find and keep a job. Poems can be found at www.wordsaboutwork.org.

This year's *Words about Work!* winners will be selected by an independent panel of poets and authors. There are separate contests for adults and children, with prize money of \$500 for adults and \$100 gift cards for the kids.

Fedcap will host a *Words about Work!* celebration and poetry slam featuring the winners on Sunday, April 25 at Manhattan's Bowery Poetry Club in collaboration with the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Poem in Your Pocket Day and National Poetry Month.

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Fedcap

Founded in 1935, Fedcap is a national leader in providing comprehensive vocational services and employment for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. Fedcap helps America work. Through training, job placement, and socially responsible outsourcing™ services to business and government, Fedcap has helped thousands of people transform their lives and successfully enter the workforce.

Fedcap graduates obtain jobs at private companies or with Fedcap. The majority of the jobs we are able to offer are made possible through the New York State Preferred Source Program and the federal AbilityOne Program. Fedcap also operates a licensed home health care agency and Chelton Loft, a clubhouse for people with severe and persistent mental illness. For more information, or to make a donation, call 212-727-4200 or visit www.fedcap.org