

NATIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK

Empowering Students Across the Country to End School Violence
(October 18-24, 2009)

ABOUT SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK



According to the Centers for Disease Control, over **one million students across America take a weapon to school each month**, and over 1.3 million students are injured or threatened with a weapon at school each year.

National Safe Schools Week gives students an opportunity to raise awareness around speaking up against school violence.

NATIONAL STUDENT DESIGN PROJECT: HIGH SCHOOL

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The National Student Design Project is a way for you to participate in National Safe Schools Week and raise awareness about safety in your community.

HOW YOU CAN ENTER:

Submit a poem, story, song, or rap that expresses your thoughts on school violence and safety. Any form of writing is accepted. Submissions can be fictitious or factual. Submissions can be emailed to speakup@paxusa.org or mailed to

**Student Design Project
PAX/Real Solutions to Gun Violence
100 Wall Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10005**

RECOGNITION

- Every student who submits a piece will receive a prize.
- One author will be recognized for his/her literary work with an iPod shuffle.
- The recognized author will also win a School Safety Package (a \$2,500 value) for their school.

DEADLINE

All submissions should be in by **Friday, October 16**, and the top entries will be announced on Friday, October 23.

SUGGESTED TOPICS

- *Why is it important to keep our schools safe for children, teachers and parents?*
- *What can students do to promote safety in our schools?*
- *What can leaders (local, regional, national) do to promote safety in our schools?*

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Join our Facebook (<http://www.causes.com/speakup>) and Myspace pages (http://www.myspace.com/speakup_pax). During National Safe Schools Week, get 10 of your friends to join!
- Start a discussion with your friends and family about why you think it's important to have safe schools and communities.
- Visit the NSSW website for more information: www.safeschoolsweek.org.