

**RESOLUTION RE: 15TH ANNUAL BRITISH AIRWAYS ESSAY CONTEST
2001 AMBASSADORS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

WHEREAS, British Airways sponsored the Fifteenth Annual Chicago Children's Essay Contest to promote excellence in writing skills; and

WHEREAS, the students were encouraged to create a document for a time-capsule that would compare two significant events or characteristics about Chicago with two about London; and

WHEREAS, over six hundred students in grades fourth through eighth entered this contest and learned to implement their writing skills as encouraged by the Chicago Public Schools "Read, Write Well" writing initiative; and

WHEREAS, Jena Ann Thomas, fourth grade student at George Rogers Clark School, Carlos Ramirez, fifth grade student at Greene School, Graham Rosby, sixth grader at LaSalle Language Academy, Mandy Meehan, seventh grader at Edison Regional Gifted Center, and Karen Zaya eighth grader at Peterson School, were the winners; and

WHEREAS, these outstanding young people are declared the 2001 Ambassadors for Academic Excellence and each of them and one of their parents will be awarded a one-week trip to London, England, this summer, valued at \$6,000 per winner, through the generosity of British Airways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago gathered here this 27th day of June, 2001, recognize and commend these young people for their outstanding creativity and writing skills, and we extend congratulations to their teachers and principals for their dedication and for encouraging their students to strive for excellence.