Every first-year student is invited to create a work of visual art, a piece of creative writing, or an essay in response to Kayla Williams’ *Love My Rifle More Than You-Young and Female in the U.S. Army*. A work of visual art can be in any medium, such as painting, sculpture, or electronic art. A piece of creative writing can be poetry, fiction, or drama. An essay can be descriptive, narrative, informative, or persuasive.

**Contest Requirements:**

1. Visual art must be accompanied by an artist’s statement (a brief explanation of how you created the piece, the ideas you are illustrating, what you want the viewer to see in the work, etc.) in both paper AND ELECTRONIC format to be considered.
2. Essays, creative writing and artist statements must be word processed. No hand written submissions will be accepted. Paper AND ELECTRONIC format MUST be submitted to be considered.
3. All work must be original.
4. To be considered, and published if a winning piece, all work must be accompanied by the attached contest submission form, electronic format of the paper or artist's statement, and have a signed permission.
5. The writer/artist’s name and valid contact information must be on the work submitted.

The students who have submitted winning essays, creative writing and art are recognized in several ways:

- Students, a guest, and their sponsoring faculty members are invited to a special Reception and Book Signing with Kayla Williams, author of *Love My Rifle* on Wednesday, October 29th at 5:30 p.m.

- Winning selections are reproduced or photographed and printed in *Pentangle*, a student edited publication of Sigma Tau Delta. *Pentangle* will be published and distributed to winners during the Outstanding Freshman Recognition event in February.

**Contest Deadline:** Friday, October 17th by (noon)12:00 p.m. Entries need to be submitted to The Office of First-Year Programs in Founders Hall 231.
**Topic Suggestions**

Address an issue, idea, or experience inspired in some way by the BC book. Your entry can be non-fiction, fiction, poetry or any other kind of written expression. You may also use other forms of artistic expression including, but not limited to, painting, drawing, photography, music, etc.

Some possible ideas, if you are struggling with inspiration:

1. The changing role of women in society
2. Society’s responsibility with regard to its care for veterans
3. Our own personal responsibility
4. Culture clash and dehumanization of the "other"

**Contest Submission Form**

Name: __________________________________________________________

Professor: ______________________________________________________

Phone number  
(home) ______________________________  (cell) ______________________

E-mail address __________________________________________________

_____ I understand my work cannot be judged if I do not ALSO submit an electronic
(initial) version of my:  artist statement  essay  creative writing  other _________
(circle the one appropriate item)

I hereby authorize the Office of First-Year Programs to publish my written or visual submission in their print publications and/or on the NKU web site.

All written works and artist statements MUST be submitted electronically for consideration in the contest. Works may be submitted through the electronic form at [http://www.nku.edu/~firstyear/bookconnection/bc_contest.htm](http://www.nku.edu/~firstyear/bookconnection/bc_contest.htm) or to the Office of First-Year Programs on a compact disk accompanied by a paper form. (FH 231)

_____________________________  ____________________________
Signed  Date

Students may pick up their art or written submission at any point during the academic year. We often display Book Connection contest winners’ submissions and will discuss this option with you individually. The Office of First-Year Programs will save all contest material until the end of the 2008-09 academic year (May 2009). If you have questions about your submission, please call our office (859)572-5913.