Editorial cartoons are a powerful way to make a point about an issue. With the support of The Herb Block Foundation, students can earn scholarships and national recognition by submitting original editorial cartoons to the Scholastic Awards!

Herb Block created and published thousands of editorial cartoons. His work captured the attention of politicians and citizens alike, changing the course of history. Check out his amazing work at herbblockfoundation.org.

Pick an issue!
Select an issue that's important to you, whether it's an idea about global warming or cafeteria food. Research your topic and think about ways to present your opinion. Is there something absurd or ironic about the issue? How can you symbolize key individuals and themes? What's the most effective way to get others to see your point?

Draw a rough draft.
Nothing fancy! Just sketch something to get the idea across. Write a few captions or “thought balloons” that will make your point.

Refine and edit.
Once the concept is clear, fine-tune your drawing. Take your time so it's simple to understand. Select the best caption and make sure your lettering is neat and dark.

Step back.
Ask someone you trust if the idea of your cartoon comes across. Try to take in the feedback and make any changes you think are necessary.

Put it out there!
Publish your work in print or online, and submit it to the Editorial Cartoon category of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards at artandwriting.org!

In partnership with The Herb Block Foundation, the Editorial Cartoon category was created to honor the remarkable legacy of cartoonist Herb Block. This category recognizes drawings, illustration, comic art, and animation that offer commentary or criticism on current events or political topics.

(above) What Remains, Editorial Cartoon by Gillian Maurer, Grade 12, Age 18, Asheville High School, Asheville, NC.