

Hello,

We are so sorry for the delay in getting this off the ground this year. Please let your high school seniors know of this scholarship opportunity. This is my first year leading the charge on this, and I have used much of the material from last year. The committee has asked that we have sincere entries and that this is not used as an assignment for classes. We ask if possible for you to read and narrow down the entries to the top 2 for each school. We have over 130 schools in our district, so as you can imagine that is a lot of reading.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at jackiewells1213@gmail.com or at my work the Camargo Township District Library at 217-832-5211.

Sincerely,

Jackie Wells

Rotary District 6490
Literacy and Education Committee
2021-2022 High School Essay Writing Contest
*****Rules and Guidelines*****

Registration of Your Entry

Please complete the enclosed REGISTRATION form for your essay and include it with your essay when you submit it.

Topics

- 1.** It has been said that happiness is defined by financial success. Would you agree or disagree? And why you agree or disagree
- 2.** What are the biggest concerns for high school students? (guns, bullying, drugs, suicides, etc). Discuss your ideas on what is contributing to this and how you think it is and should be addressed.
- 3.** Climate change is an everyday subject. What does this mean to you? If climate change is happening, how do you think it is affecting the earth now, and how do you expect to be dealing with it 30 years from now?
- 4.** Despite the virus and other tragic thing in the news, how are you making great high school memories that you will share at your 25th Reunion?
- 5.** Do you think that there is equality in girl's sports compared to boy's sports at your school or even in general? If you see inequities how, could this be addressed?

Format

The guidelines listed below must be adhered to in the essay. A large part of the score is based on the adherence of these guidelines. Unfortunately, in previous years, excellent essays have been graded down due to non-adherence to these guidelines. Do not be one of those.

1. Use 8.5" by 11" paper
2. Use 12-point font
3. Double space your essay
4. 1" margins on all sides of paper (top, bottom, and each side)
5. Maximum length is 2 pages

6. Type the number of your topic choice from the list above (#1, #2, #3, #4, or # 5) in the upper left-hand corner of the first page of your essay.
7. Title your essay and include the title at the top center of your first page.
8. Important --DO NOT include your name, local Rotary, address or your high school anywhere on the essay itself. That information will be on your registration form.

The judges are the members of the Rotary District 6490 Literacy and Education Committee. The judging is completely blind without bias. The criteria for judging are guided by the State of Illinois Rubric. Essays will be scored based on Focus, Originality, Development, and Conventions (adherence to grammar, spelling, punctuation, format rules, etc.)

Entries must be received no later than March 20, 2022.

You must address and stamp an envelope to: essays are allowed to be folded.

Rachael Fearday

605 Flame Court

Effingham IL 62401

Or email to:

rfearday6490@gmail.com

Put "Rotary essay contest 6490" in the subject

If you submit by email, you must also remember to include your registration form on a separate page or attachment. We must have both.

Be sure to include your essay and registration form.

First place is **\$500** and will be a guest of the District at the Spring Assembly in May of 2022: time and date to be announced.

Second place is **\$250.**

ALL THE BEST AND GOOD LUCK!

February 8, 2022

Registration Form

Rotary District 6490

Literacy and Education Committee

2021-22 High School Senior Essay Writing Contest

Student's Name: _____

Student's email: _____

Student's mailing
address: _____

Student's Phone number: _____

Name of High School: _____

Topic number of essay: _____

Title of Essay: _____

Complete this form and submit it with your essay. Do NOT put any of this personal information on your essay. If you submit by email, make sure it is with your essay but separated.