



Rotary International District

7770

Four-Way Test Essay Contest

2015-16

September 10, 2015

District 7770 is proud to announce the 2015-16 inaugural Four-Way Test Essay contest.

The 2015-16 District Governor, Rod Funderburk, is challenging every club to sponsor the essay contest in their local high school(s). Individual club winners will be entered into the District 7770 essay contest. The top three district winners will receive cash prizes and will be presented at the District 7770 Conference.

We are seeking to have all 80 clubs participate in this inaugural essay contest. First, it will build a student-centered sense of community among the district clubs. Second, it has the potential of raising awareness for Rotary's Four-Way Test to every high school student in our district. Third, we believe that this will encourage students and prepare them for the writing of their college essay.

District 7770 believes that this is an opportunity to showcase students who understand the importance of the Four-Way Test, strengthen Interact Clubs and raise awareness for Rotary International. If your club is interested in the essay contest for 2015-16, please contact District Essay Chair, Darcie Patrick at darciepatrick@gmail.com

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROTARY CLUB

1. Agree to sponsor the contest.
2. Identify and contact the lead English teacher for the 11th & 12th grade class(es).
3. Review the contest rules.
4. Appoint a committee to evaluate the essays.
5. Select the club winner(s) and submit the first place essay(s) to the District Essay Chair by February 1, 2016.
6. Recognize the club winners, parents and teacher(s) and award certificates/prizes.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DISTRICT

1. Display rules for the contest on the district website.
2. Provide cash awards for the district winners.
3. Appoint a committee to evaluate the winning essays submitted by the clubs and select the district winners.
4. Invite the winners, their parents, and teachers to the District Conference where prizes will be awarded to the top three students; and the winner will present the winning essay.
5. Display the winning essays on the district website.

Essay Contest Rules

- All participants will sign a pledge, agreeing that the essay is their original work.
- Up to 750 words, double spaced.
- Written in Microsoft Word format and sent as a pdf.
- No graphics or highlighted text.
- Must agree to publicity and/or publication.
- Must be approved by the student's parents, if under 18 years of age.
- Essay contest dates and deadlines must be honored, no exceptions.
- Finalists, parents, and respective school representative are recognized at a sponsoring Rotary Club function and awards presented.
- Press release, with photo(s), passed to local press.
- The winning essay from each club is forwarded to the District Essay Chair by February 1, 2016.

Recommendations

- A District-wide Four-Way Test Essay contest will continue in the 2016-17 Rotary year.
- The winning essays from all participating district clubs must be received by the District Essay Chair by February 1, 2016 to allow sufficient time for district judging, notifying the winners, and listing their names in the 2016 District Conference program.
- Monetary awards: First Place - \$500, Second Place - \$300, Third Place - \$100

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest Critical Dates/Actions

- Fall 2015: Recruit 11th & 12th grade students.
- January 15, 2016: Essays submitted to local club.
- February 1, 2016: Club selects winner and submits winning essay to the District Essay Chair for District Contest.
- February, 2016: Club notifies winner(s) and awards prize(s) at club event.
- March 1, 2016: District Four-Way Test Committee announces district winners.
- March 18-20, 2016: District winner presents winning essay at District Conference.

Four-Way Essay Contest District Contact:

Darcie Patrick, PP VanLandingham Rotary

Telephone(Cell): (843) 384-3125

E-mail: darciepatrick@gmail.com or collegehhi@gmail.com

2015-2016 Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest

Topic of the essay: Rotary's "Four-Way Test" and what it means to the conduct of my daily life.



The Four-Way Test:

1. Is it **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Purpose of the essay: A written essay that explains the student's personal understanding of the "Four-Way Test" and how it relates to his/her life experiences and/or society. How does it influence what they say, think, and do.

Instructions for Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest

Eligibility: High School 11th and 12th grade students enrolled in District 7770 public, private, online or home schools.

Format: Microsoft Word format will be used. The essay must be printed on white paper, size 8.5 X 11.0. The font will be either Century Schoolbook, Arial, or Times New Roman. Print size will be 12 point. Do not insert identifying information on any sheet except the cover sheet. Lines will be double-spaced. Do not insert graphics. The use of bold, italics, and/or underlining should be avoided.

Number of Copies: Two copies of the essay will be turned in.

Essay Length:

The essay must not exceed 750 words in length.

Cover Sheet: A cover sheet will be attached to each essay.

Original Work: The essay must be the original work of the student submitting the essay for competition. Participating students will sign the pledge on the cover sheet stating that the essay is their original work.

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest Evaluation Guide

Functional Area Score

20% FOCUS: How well the author displays awareness and understanding of the purpose of the Essay.

20% CONTENT DEVELOPMENT: How well the student displays the story line consistent with the purpose of the essay.

20% ORGANIZATION: How well the author presents a skillful pattern on the narrative presenting key points.

20% STYLE: How well the student uses control of the language/ literary devices/sentence/paragraph structure.

20% SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT: Evaluator's overall assessment of the essay.

TOTAL: 100%

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Cover Sheet

This sheet must be attached to each essay submitted

Rotary's Four Way Test

And

What It Means to the Conduct of my Daily Life

---by---

Student's Name _____

Student's Teacher _____

Student's School _____

Local Rotary Club Sponsor _____

Student's Home Mailing Address _____

Student's Email _____ Student's Phone _____

I declare that the research and written work on this essay are mine and mine alone. I understand the Rotary Club of _____ may publish this essay in whole or in part. There are _____ words in this essay.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name (Print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest

Evaluation Work Sheet

Student's Name:

Evaluation Score (maximum of 20 points per element):

FOCUS: _____

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

STYLE: _____

EVALUATOR'S ASSESSMENT: _____

TOTAL: _____