



Yahnundahsis Bodies

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Valley of Utica

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January 8, 2024

Dear Educator,

The Valley of Utica Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Masons are pleased to announce their Annual "Frank S. Rice Memorial Family Life Program" for 2024. In conjunction with this program, we are pleased to again sponsor our annual "Essay and Art Contest" which is open to students in grades 1-12. It is important to note there have been some changes made to the structure. Both contests are open to all public and private schools.

As in previous years, winning Prize Gift Cards and Complimentary Dinner tickets will be awarded to winning Students and their family. Also, their Teacher, and one School Administrator will received a Complimentary Dinner ticket.

Enclosed are the Contest Rules and we are asking that you support this program by sharing this information with your fellow Teachers and by encouraging your students to participate.

This year we have selected the topic "**Family**". Should you require clarification concerning any part of this program or require additional materials, please contact our office Administrative Manager, Alyssa Goracy at the phone numbers or email listed above or visit the "Family Life" section on our webpage at www.aastruticany.com.

Sincerely,

Carl

Ill. : Carl J. Klossner, 33°
Program Chairperson
2024 Family Life Observance



RULES FOR “FRANK S. RICE MEMORIAL FAMILY LIFE” ESSAY CONTEST (Sponsored by the Yahnundahsis Bodies, Scottish Rite Masons)

GRADES 6TH THROUGH 12TH

I. CONTEST PERIOD

The contest period will end on Friday, March 15, 2024.

II. THEME

What family traits have been passed down from generation to generation in your family that you feel will be your guidelines through life?

III. DEADLINE

All essay submissions must be received no later than March 15, 2024. Submissions received after March 15, 2024, will not be accepted. Essay submissions must be completed and mailed to: **Scottish Rite Essay Contest, Utica Masonic Hall, 251 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501-3401**

IV. LENGTH OF ESSAY

Grades 5 – 8: 150 – 200 words

Grades 9 – 12: 200 – 350 words

V. FORMAT

Essays for all grade levels may be typewritten, printed, or neatly hand-written in blue or black ink, double spaced on plain or lined paper, by the applicant.

VI. COVER PAGE

A cover page **MUST** be secured to the essay and contain the following information:

- Student's Last Name, Student's First Name
- Name of either Teacher, Parent or Guardian
- Teacher, Parent or Guardians contact e-mail address
- Teacher, Parent or contact phone number
- Teacher, Parent or **original** Signature
- Name of School
- School Address
- Student's Grade

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VII. JUDGING

WORK MUST BE ORIGINAL. Plagiarized material will be disqualified. Research and a bibliography are not required however supportive facts, statements, or data must be footnoted. All essays will be judged by a panel selected by the Committee.

VIII. ESSAY PRIZES

| <u>6th – 8th Grades</u> | <u>9th – 10th Grades</u> | <u>11th – 12th Grades</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1 st - \$100.00 certificate | 1 st - \$150.00 certificate | 1 st - \$250.00 certificate |
| 2 nd - \$50.00 certificate | 2 nd - \$75.00 certificate | 2 nd - \$150.00 certificate |
| 3 rd - \$25.00 certificate | 3 rd - \$50.00 certificate | 3 rd - \$100.00 certificate |

IMPORTANT

Winners and schools will be notified prior to our Family Life Awards Banquet to be held on **Friday, May 3, 2024**, at Harts Hill Inn, Whitesboro, NY at 6 PM.

Winning students must be present to receive awards and First prize winners in each grade level should be prepared to read their essay.

Submission of an essay will be considered explicit permission by the author to publish the essay and author's photo as an exclusive right of the Scottish Rite Masons. Original essays will be returned at the Awards Banquet unless specific arrangements are made. Non-claimed essays will become the property of the Yahnundahsis Bodies Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.