



COMMUNITY

FUTURE

TRAITS

PERSPECTIVE

INFLUENCE

ESSAY CONTEST \$12,000



AWARDED TO JUNIORS & SENIORS
2021 STATE MASONIC PUBLIC SCHOOL
ESSAY CONTEST

ESSAY QUESTION

MASONIC LODGES ARE PLACES WHERE PEOPLE MEET "ON THE LEVEL" REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL PREFERENCE, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, AND RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

OUR COUNTRY'S MOTTO IS E PLURIBUS UNUM - OUT OF MANY, ONE - AND THE FAMILIAR PHRASE "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL" DATES BACK OVER 2,500 YEARS.

For this essay, begin by finding someone who holds a different perspective than you on a divisive issue - social, religious, political - someone who fundamentally disagrees with a perspective you hold dear. For your issue, think locally, nationally, or even internationally. After taking the time to have a sincere, substantive conversation with the person you select about your chosen issue, explain what you learned from the dialogue. In 300-500 words, how did this civil discussion impact your perspective on the issue? On the person? How will this experience influence your future actions? How can you exhibit one or more of these traits in your school or community and how will this prepare you for your future?

CONTEST RULES: To download a fillable PDF, go to www.kansasmasonic.foundation/program/kansas-masonic-foundation-scholarships

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Any Junior or Senior attending a Kansas tax-supported public high school is eligible.
2. Contact any Kansas Masonic Lodge, Kansas Mason, or your counselor for information.
3. Essays will be judged on originality, research, and development of the topic.
4. Contestant **must follow contest rules** as to topic, number of words, etc.

RULES

5. Essays shall be limited to a **minimum of 300** and a **maximum of 500 words**.
6. Essays must be **typewritten, double spaced**, with work cited, on standard **8½" x 11" paper with a 12 point Arial font**.
7. The **original and one copy** of the essay must be submitted to the Local Lodge.
8. Essays **MUST** have a typed title page (download a fillable PDF from www.kansasmasonic.foundation/program/kansas-masonic-foundation-scholarships) that will show the student's name, gender, complete address, Junior or Senior Class, and School name. This information shall appear **only on the title page**. All pages, except the title page, must be numbered.
NO REFERENCE TO THE STUDENT'S NAME, TOWN, SCHOOL, OR OTHER COMMUNITY IDENTIFIER SHOULD APPEAR ANYWHERE IN THE BODY OF THE ESSAY.
9. All essays become the property of the Local Masonic Lodge and may be published without the author's permission.

TIMELINE

10. Essays must be submitted to the Local Lodge on or before **November 1, 2021**.
11. The winning essay(s) from a Local Lodge (one per high school in the Lodge's area) will be sent to the Grand Lodge and must be postmarked no later than **December 1, 2021**.
12. There are no contest entry forms. **Essays are to be presented to the Local Lodge.**
13. Essays must first win the Local Lodge competition before they can be submitted for State competition.
14. Grand Lodge essay winners will be notified prior to March 1, 2022.

SPONSORED BY THE MW GRAND LODGE OF AF & AM OF KANSAS AND THE KANSAS MASONIC FOUNDATION.

1ST PLACE: \$4,000
2ND PLACE: \$3,000
3RD PLACE: \$2,000
4TH PLACE: \$1,000

**HONORABLE MENTION –
4 WILL BE CHOSEN: \$500 EACH**

2020 LIST OF WINNERS

1ST PLACE

ALEXANDER DART
CHEYLIN HIGH SCHOOL
ST. FRANCIS LODGE NO. 404

3RD PLACE

SADIE SCHMANKE
CONWAY SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL
MISTLETOE LODGE NO. 269

2ND PLACE

BRENDAN SHANKS
MINNEAPOLIS HIGH SCHOOL
MINNEAPOLIS LODGE NO. 143

4TH PLACE

ASHLEY VILAYSING
HAYS HIGH SCHOOL
HAYS LODGE NO. 195

HONORABLE MENTIONS

LAURA SMITH—WICHITA EAST HIGH SCHOOL
SUNFLOWER LODGE NO. 86

KYLE BEAN—SHAWNEE MISSION WEST HIGH SCHOOL
LENEXA LODGE NO. 135

DREW MEECHAM—CHAPARRAL HIGH SCHOOL
HARPER LODGE NO. 206

BLAKLEY ALDRIDGE—WESKAN HIGH SCHOOL
SHARON SPRINGS LODGE NO. 417

MW Grand Lodge of AF & AM of Kansas 2021 Essay Contest

TITLE PAGE

For this essay, begin by finding someone who holds a different perspective than you on a divisive issue - social, religious, political - someone who fundamentally disagrees with a perspective you hold dear. For your issue, think locally, nationally, or even internationally. After taking the time to have a sincere, substantive conversation with the person you select about your chosen issue, explain what you learned from the dialogue. In 300-500 words, how did this civil discussion impact your perspective on the issue? On the person? How will this experience influence your future actions? How can you exhibit one or more of these traits in your school or community and how will this prepare you for your future?

Student:

Must be typed - download a fillable PDF from www.kansasmasonic.foundation/program/essay-contest/

Name: _____

Gender: Male Female

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Class: Junior Senior

School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Teacher: _____

Lodge:

Name: _____ No _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____



MW GRAND LODGE
OF AF & AM OF KANSAS



KANSAS MASONIC FOUNDATION
Writing, Service and School Committees