



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

is pleased to announce its annual

International High School Essay Contest

As a mandated element of the Annual International Achievement Week Observance

Four College Scholarship Awards:

1st Scholarship: \$5,000; 2nd Scholarship: \$3,000; 3rd Scholarship: \$2,000; 4th Scholarship: \$1,000

The Ninth District College Scholarship Awards Includes:

1st Scholarship and Representing the District: \$1,500; 2nd Scholarship: \$1,000; 3rd Scholarship: \$500

Contest Closes/Submission due to local Chapter: October 20, 2023

2023 Essay Title:

With Politics gaining the bulk of discussion, what can the younger generation do to ensure that elected leaders understand the impact of gaining their vote?

Eligibility & Rules

The Contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors who submit an essay application through a Chapter of the Fraternity.

The essay must be original and neither previously published nor secured by copyright. The essay must be between 700 and 750 words in length. **The type-written, double-spaced essay may be submitted via postal service or email in Microsoft Word.**

Submission Process

All submissions will be reviewed by your local Chapter (determined by your high school/home address). Submissions will not be accepted after **October 20, 2023**.

The following information for the contestant must appear on the first page in this manner:

Title: _____

An Essay By: _____ Home Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____ Name of High School: _____

Address of High School: _____

Student Email: _____

Contest Name: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity International High School Essay Contest

Name of Sponsoring Chapter: _____ Location of Chapter: _____

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped on the email not later than midnight, October 20, 2023, and **sent to an Omega Psi Phi Chapter Sponsoring the Essay Contest.**

Essays are not to be sent to the Fraternity's Headquarters facility and will be considered ineligible.

Local rules and additional information:

Must be enrolled in a San Antonio, Texas metropolitan area high school. Open to all college-bound seniors in the Class of 2024. **Deadline to submit essay is October 20, 2023.**

The high school essay contest package must include:

1. The completed 2023 - 2024 International High School Essay Contest Application
2. The Essay (Must be submitted in Microsoft Word format)
3. A color, head-shot photo, in business attire
4. The attached signed and dated Essay Release Form. *
5. Completed Media Release and Consent Form, signed appropriately. *

* (Electronic signatures accepted)

In addition to the essay award amounts listed on the essay contest application, the Psi Alpha Chapter essay contest winners will be awarded as follows:

1st Place: \$750.00, 2nd Place: \$500.00, 3rd Place: \$250.00 (1st Place winning essay will be submitted to the Ninth District, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.)

Email Essay to: psiawsscholarship@gmail.com (Preferred)

OR

**Mail Essay to: Psi Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
ATTN: High School Essay Contest Chairman
P.O. Box 200337
San Antonio TX 78220-0337**



Rating Criteria

All local Chapters will assemble a review panel to assess submitted essays based on the following criteria. Essays may earn a maximum rating of 100 points.

1. Development of Topic/Thesis: (30 possible points)

Topic is well-developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)

2. Progression: (20 possible points)

Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information

3. Readability: (25 possible points)

Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader's attention)

4. Grammar: (15 possible points)

Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same

5. Spelling: (5 possible points)

6. Punctuation: (5 possible points)

Additional Information

Persons submitting manuscripts thereby grant to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. the right to keep the manuscripts and to exercise full publishing rights to them. Awards will be announced on or about June 4, 2024, and the decision of the judges will be final. The manuscripts must present an adequate treatment of the essay topic. Winners may be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essay was submitted. Awards will be submitted to each winner, upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required. Awards must be claimed within 18 months after the announcement date to be valid.

Local Chapter Contact

Local Chapter Name _____

Bro. _____

Email _____

I, the undersigned, as Parent or Guardian of _____ (*insert full name of essay applicant*), declare that the Essay/Manuscript authored and submitted by him(her) to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for purposes of consideration in its International High School Essay Contest is an original work. I hereby grant to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity a non-exclusive right to publish said work for distribution to members and the public for the purposes of advertising or publicizing the contest and any winners. Distribution may include and not be limited to print, oral or web based, internet distribution.

I, further acknowledge that I have been apprised of the Fraternity's policy relating to its use of the Essays of participants at the time of application to the Essay Contest. The Essay Application document states:

Persons submitting manuscripts hereby grant to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. a non-exclusive right to keep essay manuscripts and to publish them for the purpose of advertising and publicizing the Essay Contest to members and the general public.

I hereby grant to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. an irrevocable, worldwide license to use, reproduce, distribute, or modify the article in its entirety or portions thereof.

I also declare that if any parts of my child's submission are copyrighted, permission has been sought and received by us, or appropriate attribution has been made.

I further agree that the name, likeness, and biographical material, including affiliations of the author, may be used in connection with, and promotion of, the essay/manuscript and/or the Essay Contest itself.

(Parent or Guardian Name): _____

Telephone: _____

Address: (Street) _____ (City) _____

(State) _____ (Zip) _____

E-mail: _____

(Parent/Guardian Signature): _____ Date: _____

(Essay/Manuscript Author Name): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

[Add additional names/signatures if necessary.]

Media Release and Consent Form

Student's name: _____ Age: _____
Physical address: _____
Email address: _____
Parent/Guardian's name: _____
(Please Print)
Phone (h): _____ (c): _____

I hereby grant Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and [insert name of chapter or foundation] ("the Organization") permission to use my likeness in photographs, video recordings or electronic images in any and all of its publications, including website entries, without payment or any other consideration. I understand and agree that these materials will become the property of the Organization and will not be returned. I hereby irrevocably authorize the Organization to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute these images for purposes of publicizing the organization's programs or for any other lawful purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein my likeness appears.

Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of my image. I hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge the Organization from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

I am 18 years of age and am competent to contract in my own name, or if I am under age 18, a parent or guardian has signed below. I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning and impact of this release.

(Signature) (Date)

(Printed Name)

If the person signing is under age 18 we would ask that that person sign but there must also be the signed consent by a parent or guardian, below:

I hereby certify that I am the parent or guardian of _____, named above, and do hereby give my consent without reservation to the foregoing release on behalf of this person.

(Parent/Guardian's Signature) (Date)

(Printed Name)