

The Sons of the Republic of Texas



TEXAS HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

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SPONSOR: THE SONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

ELIGIBILITY:

Graduating Seniors in any High School or Home School may enter. Senior students in History, English and Government classes are encouraged to participate.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

The authors of the three best essays submitted will be the scholarship winners if the essays warrant. In the event of a tie, the winners will be determined based on academic achievements. The winners will be recognized by The Sons of the Republic of Texas at the Annual San Jacinto Day Celebration at the San Jacinto Monument. The Awards will be scholarships to attend the college of each winners' choice.

FIRST AWARD \$ 3,000.00

SECOND AWARD \$ 2,000.00

THIRD AWARD \$ 1,000.00

PURPOSE:

The uniqueness of Texas and Texans is recognized around the world. The purpose of the Texas History Essay Contest program is (First) To encourage students to explore the pioneer spirit of Texas on the early-day frontier, their methods of accomplishing their goals under very difficult circumstances, and the results of their efforts that we can see today.

(Second) To assist and encourage graduating seniors to pursue their education at an institution of higher learning. It is hoped that the topic chosen will inspire the thinking of our youth, who will assume the responsibility of leadership for the conduct of our affairs on local, state, national and international levels in the near future.

TOPIC:

Each year, students are invited to submit essays reflecting their research and study of our Texas History and its relevance to the development of Texas. The year 2009-2010 topic will be:

“The Battle of Coletto and the Goliad Massacre”

RULES:

Essays are to be no fewer than 1500 words nor more than 2000 words in length (excluding endnotes and bibliography) and must be computer generated, double spaced, on one side only of 8 ½” x 11” paper. Quotations from other writers are encouraged but must be acknowledged and should be used with discretion. Essays will be screened for plagiarism using standard software designed for this purpose. The application must be filled out completely, including academic information.

1. Each contestant must submit an original and four (4) photo copies of their Essay for the judges (five in all) including a CD copy with contestant's name, address, phone number and year of the contest and

2. A copy of the application should be attached to each of the five (5) copies of the Essay submitted.

The student must follow the format of the Chicago Manual of Style or Turabian's Manual for Writers. Endnotes should be listed on one page and all references cited should be on a separate page. Information must come from a reliable published source (Books/Magazines) and students must acknowledge the author and publisher. Two internet sources are acceptable. **All entries become the property of The Sons of the Republic of Texas.**

CRITERIA:

The criteria used by the judges in selecting the winners will be based on a system that accurately scores the essays such as historical accuracy and content, writing quality (spelling & grammar), research references, bibliography, endnotes and whether the student followed instructions. In the event of a tie, the winners will be determined based on academic achievements. The final judge will be Dr. Joe E. Ericson, former chairman of the Political Science Department at Stephen F. Austin State University for 22 years. He is the author of numerous books on Texas Government and History.

In the administration of the Texas History Essay Contest, The Sons of the Republic of Texas does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, color, disability, nationality or ethnicity.

DEADLINE:

Entries must be postmarked on or before January 31, 2010.

The original essays and four copies along with a CD copy should be sent to The Sons of the Republic of Texas, 1717 8th Street Bay City, Texas 77414.

THE SONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR ACADEMIC YEAR
2009-2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Current Mailing Address:

Street Address City State Zip

Residence Phone # _____ Email Address: _____

Parent's name and address (if different from applicant) the check should be made out to in the event the applicant is one of the winners _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

High School Name _____

High School Address _____

High School Telephone Number _____

Faculty/Counselor Sponsor _____

Sponsor Telephone Number _____

Academic Grade Point Average _____

Rank In Class _____ SAT _____ ACT _____

Academic Honors/ Awards/ Achievements _____

Proposed College Major Field of Study _____

Address of College or University attending: _____

★ ★ ★ TEXAS HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES ★ ★ ★

EXAMPLES OF ENDNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY TO BE USED AS GUIDES

PLEASE NOTE: Many authors use multiple sources for a paragraph (see endnotes 3 and 4) and place the endnote at the end of the paragraph. You may not use "ibid." with multiple sources. The word "ibid." refers to a single source only; therefore, footnote 6 is correct since footnote 5 has only one source listed.

Set out below are two forms, one using underlining and the other using italics. Either form is acceptable.

USING UNDERLINING:

Endnotes

1. T. R. Fehrenbach, Lone Star: A History of Texas and Texans (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1968), p. 232.
2. Walter Prescott Webb and H. Bailey Carroll, eds., The Handbook of Texas, I, (Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1952), pp. 248-249.
3. Fehrenbach, Lone Star, pp.245-246; David M. Vigness, "The Coming of the Anglo-Americans," The Texas Heritage, ed. by Ben Procter and Archie P. McDonald (St. Louis: Forum Press, 1980), pp. 20-21; Webb and Carroll, eds., Handbook of Texas, II, pp. 211-213.
4. Marquis James, The Raven: A Biography of Sam Houston (Atlanta: Mockingbird Books, Inc., 1928), p. 91; Vigness, "The Coming of the Anglo-Americans," pp. 23-24.
5. James, The Raven, p. 92.
6. Ibid., p. 94.

Bibliography

- Fehrenbach, T. R. Lone Star: A History of Texas and Texans. New York: The MacMillan Company, 1968.
- James, Marquis. The Raven: A Biography of Sam Houston. Atlanta: Mockingbird Books, Inc., 1929
- Vigness, David M. "The Coming of the Anglo-Americans." The Texas Heritage. Ed. by Ben Procter and Archie P. McDonald. St. Louis: Forum Press, 1980.
- Webb, Walter Prescott, and Carroll, H. Bailey, eds. The Handbook of Texas. 2 vols. Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1952.

USING ITALICS:

Endnotes

1. T. R. Fehrenbach, *Lone Star: A History of Texas and Texans* (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1968), p. 232.
2. Walter Prescott Webb and H. Bailey Carroll, eds., *The Handbook of Texas*, 1, (Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1952), pp. 248-249.
3. Fehrenbach, *Lone Star*, pp. 245-246; David M. Vigness, "The Coming of the Anglo Americans," *The Texas Heritage*, ed. by Ben Procter and Archie P. McDonald (St. Louis: Forum Press, 1980), pp. 20-21; Webb and Carroll, eds., *Handbook of Texas*, II, pp. 211-213.
4. Marquis James, *The Raven: A Biography of Sam Houston* (Atlanta: Mockingbird Books, Inc., 1928), p. 91; Vigness, "The Coming of the Anglo-Americans," pp. 23-24.
5. James, *The Raven*, p. 92.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 94.

Bibliography

- Fehrenbach, T. R. *Lone Star: A History of Texas and Texans*. New York: The MacMillan Company, 1968.
- James, Marquis. *The Raven: A Biography of Sam Houston*. Atlanta: Mockingbird Books, Inc., 1929
- Vigness, David M. "The Coming of the Anglo-Americans." *The Texas Heritage*. Ed. by Ben Procter and Archie P. McDonald. St. Louis: Forum Press, 1980.
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