



2016 - 2017 International Achievement Week Observance
Theme: "Omega Men: Living the Founders' Vision"

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Announcement of our Annual

International High School Essay Contest

As a mandated element of the Annual International Achievement Week Observance

November 14 - 20, 2016

Awards: Four College Scholarships

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

Eligibility: The Contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors

Contest Closes: October 21, 2016

RULES

The essay must be entitled:

"What would you propose to substantially reduce the incidence of gun violence in the United States and around the World without taking away the legal rights of law abiding citizens to acquire and possess firearms?"

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 .doc (preferred) or .pdf format.

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

Title: _____

An Essay By: _____ Home Street Address: _____ Phone # _____

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

Address of High School: _____

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

Name of Chapter Sponsoring Project: _____ Location of Chapter: _____

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped on the email not later than midnight, **October 21, 2016**, and **sent to the LOCAL CHAPTER SPONSORING THE ESSAY CONTEST.**

Local Chapter Address: _____ Local Chapter Email: _____

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 **July 1, 2017**, and **the decision of the judges will be final.** The manuscripts must present an adequate treatment of the essay topic. Winners will be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essays were 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.

RATING CRITERIA FOR ESSAYS

- 1. Development of Topic/Thesis:** (30 possible pts.) Topic well developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)
- 2. Progression:** (20 possible pts.) Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information
- 3. Readability:** (25 possible pts.) Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader's attention)
- 4. Grammar:** (15 possible pts.) Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same
- 5. Spelling:** (5 possible pts.)

6. Punctuation: (5 possible pts.)