

2010 Essay Contest
San Antonio Founders Day
2010 Essay Contest Rules and Entry Forms

Published: February 17, 2010

1. THEME:

“How the History and Heritage of a Cultural Group Have Contributed to San Antonio.”

- a. Write an interesting non-fiction paper about the topic in your own words.
- b. Include accurate historical information. Do research and provide a list of your sources. For example:
 - List the titles of any book, or books, you have read about your subject; see list of possible references materials.
 - Include the title and date of a newspaper article you found helpful.
 - Cite a website that includes historical and cultural information.
 - Any interviews with individuals knowledgeable about your subject may be cited.
 - While websites and interviews will help with your research, you should also include some published references.
- c. Use colorful words and details to paint a word picture of the cultural group or outstanding individual in that group.
- d. Be organized with an exciting introduction, clear flow of ideas and a concise conclusion.

2. WHO:

Public, private or home-schooled students, in grades 6-12 as of March 31, 2010. Previous San Antonio Founders Day essay contest winner ineligible. Entrants must live in Bexar County or these seven adjacent counties (Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson). Each student may submit only one entry per year and can win only once.

3. ENTRY FORM:

Fill out the 2-page entry form, which includes some basic questions and your selected cultural group.

4. ESSAY LENGTH:

Essays should be 250 to 700 words (about 1 ½ to 3 page) and include a list of research sources.

5. ESSAY FORMAT:

Entries must be typed double-spaced or neatly hand-written, using good grammar and spelling. Write or type on one side only of 8.5" x 11" white paper. Staple together the 2-page entry form (on top) with the essay pages and the list of research resources. Illegible and incomplete entries will not be judged.

6. JUDGING:

Entries will be judged by grade level and on:

- a) Quality of composition.
- b) Clarity of writing.
- c) Completeness of thought processes.
- d) Appropriateness of research sources.

Entries will be evaluated by professionals from the San Antonio academic and local literary arts communities. The contest organizers reserve the right to not award in a particular grade level based on the quality of the entries.

7. PRIZES:

a. Winner – One winner in each grade level will receive one \$1,000.00 scholarship from the Alamo Colleges' Foundation to the Alamo College of their choice, effective upon the winner's graduation from high school. Winners must use their scholarships during the academic year following high school graduation. Less than full time enrollment will limit the total scholarship to \$500.

b. Honorable Mention (one in each grade level): Certificate.

8. SUBMISSION and DEADLINE:

Entries, including the essay and entry form, must be mailed to the following address and must be postmarked by March 31, 2010.

San Antonio Founders Day Essay Contest
P. O. Box 700767
San Antonio, Texas 78270-0706

9. QUESTIONS:

For questions, please contact Mynda McGuire, Essay Contest Chairman, at:

(210)497-4638 or
armynda@sbcglobal.net.tonio Founders Day Alliance

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Entry Form
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Student's Name: _____

Grade: ____ School: _____

Teacher: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

ZIP Code: _____

How did you find out about this visual arts contest? If you heard about it from your teacher, how did he or she learn about it?

PERMISSION: from Parent or Guardian:

_____ has my permission to submit this art and it is his/her own work. We have read the disclaimers and rules in the co _____ ules and agree to the provisions as described.

If this student is a winner or receives honorable mention recognition, their name and school can be listed on the website of San Antonio Founders Day (www.SanAntonioFoundersDay.org).

Circle Yes or No.

Note: This will have no impact on the evaluation of the student's entry.

Yes No

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Date: _____

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Student's Name: _____

Title of Art: _____

Name of Selected Cultural Group: _____

Why did they come here?

What was here when they arrived?

Final instructions: Fill out all the information on both pages of this entry form, attach your 50-100 word written description of the meaning of the entry description and mail your entry as described in the rules to:

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San Antonio, Texas 78270-0706

Deadline: Entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2010.

This contest is sponsored by the San Antonio Founders Day Alliance in association with San Antonio's Founding Heritage and the Alamo Colleges Foundation.