

Wilford L. Smith Scholarship

Beta Sigma Essay Contest 2020

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender*: _____

Ethnicity*: _____ Classification: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Participating School:

List of college or universities you are planning to attend in the fall of 2020

By signing below, I, _____, understand my essay becomes the property of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. – Beta Sigma chapter. I also acknowledge that if I am the winner, I can be recognized as the winner through our chapter website and any other form of public relations.

Signature

Date

If under 18, please read the following.

By signing below, I, _____, am allowing my child, _____, to participate in the essay contest sponsored by Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. – Beta Sigma chapter. I am also authorizing my child's school information can be used for public relations purposes only.

Parent's Signature

Date

*Optional and will be used for statistical purposes ONLY. No contestant will be discriminated based on gender or race.

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Essay Contest Rules

Section I - Qualifications for Contestants

1. The contestant must be a freshman attending Norfolk State University or Old Dominion University.

Section II – Essay Topics (Choose One)

Answer the following statements to the best of your ability.

1. What is the importance of social media in the current political and social climate?
2. What part does social media play positively or negatively in the lives of teens?
3. What do you think the evolution of the second amendment in the African American Community?

Section III - Contest Rules

1. Participants must write an argumentative essay on the official topic.
2. Each entry must begin with a title page containing: the official topic, writer's name, email address, and name of the school.
3. Essays must be typewritten and double-spaced. (Deduction of 5 points)
5. Essays must be between 500 and 750 words. (Deduction of 5 points)
6. Essays must be in Times New Roman.
7. Essays must be in size 12 Font and double spaced, minus the title page.
8. Essays must have normal 1" margins.
9. Any quotations or copyrighted material used must be cited properly. For example, the use of a specific writer's format (such as MLA) may be specified by the instructor overseeing the contest. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification. A quotation should not be counted in the 500-750 words allowed in the essay.
10. If any references, the essay must include a Works Cited page.
11. Essay must be written in English.
12. The entry must be emailed to the following email address by midnight of the closing date of the application process. revdkemp@yahoo.com
13. Closing date for submissions Midnight November 27, 2020.

Section IV – Judging and Timing

1. Judging will be completed by a panel of judges.
2. In an effort to conceal the identity of each contestant, each entry will be assigned a number by the Scholarship Chair. The assigned number will be placed on the title page and page 1 of the essay. The title page will then be detached and retained by the Essay Contest Chair. The judges will be given the essay bearing only the assigned number.
3. Judges will not discuss or compare essays being judged.
4. Only judges can assign a penalty or award points.
5. Contestants will be notified of the results by December 6, 2020

Section V – Scoring

The scoring procedures of the contest will be identical. Each recipient will be scored by each judge and the average of the scores will be computed. The highest score a contestant can receive is a 24. A rubric is also attached.

1. Use of conventions – 4 points
2. Organization – 4 points
3. Ideas (originality) – 4 points
4. Sentence Fluency – 4 points
5. Word Choice – 4 points
6. Voice – 4 points

Section VI – Penalties

1. Failure to list official topic: 2 points
2. Failure to type essay and double-space: 5 points
3. Failure to stay within word count: 5 points

Section VII - Awards

1. The top two essays will receive a \$500 check from the Beta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma
 - A. Awards are for use at a college or university only.
 - B. All scholarships will be payable to the contestant, pending proof of enrollment into a college or university.
 - C. Winners must be able to appear in a photo collecting money from a member of the Beta Sigma chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.