

# 2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest

## Student Information and Contest Rules

### Eligibility & Information

Students in grades 6 through 12 enrolled in parochial, private, public schools or who are home-schooled are eligible to participate in the 2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. The National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest is comprised of two levels: LEVEL 1 is for students in Grades 6, 7, or 8 and LEVEL 2 is for students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.

Each student entering the 2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest should be given a copy of the Student Information and Contest Rules as well as a copy of the 2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria.

### Contest Themes

**LEVEL 1 Grades 6-7-8** "The Role of the Irish in World War 1"

**LEVEL 2 Grades 9-10-11-12** "The Role of the Irish in World War 1"

### Contest Information

1. Each student wishing to enter the Irish History Writing Contest is to follow the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest information and Contest Rules.
2. Each student is required to submit four (4) copies of their essay to the LAOH Division Irish Historian by November 15, 2016 (contact info on following page).
3. Each student through their participation gives permission to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. to use their essay at LAOH meetings, events and/or in LAOH publications or websites.
4. Paper Length: **LEVEL 1 – Not less than 500 words or more than 1,000 words**  
**LEVEL 2 – Not less than 750 words or more than 1,500 words**

### Contest Timelines

- **Division Level Submissions are to be received by November 15, 2016**
- County Level Submissions are to be received by December 15, 2016
- State Level Submissions are to be received by January 15, 2017
- National Level Submissions are to be postmarked by February 15, 2017
- National to announce winners by March 31, 2017

### National Awards

| NATIONAL AWARD    | LEVEL 1 | LEVEL 2 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| First place       | \$500   | \$1000  |
| Second place      | \$250   | \$500   |
| Third place       | \$125   | \$250   |
| Honorable mention | \$50    | \$100   |
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## **Writing Style Requirements**

- Make sure to acknowledge all resources that you use as you prepare your paper.
- Plagiarism involves two kinds of wrongs. Using another person's ideas, information, or expressions without acknowledging that person's work constitutes intellectual theft. Passing off another person's ideas, information, or expressions as your own to get a better grade or gain some advantage constitutes fraud. If the student does not credit sources, the essay will be disqualified.
- Use double line spacing throughout the paper (title page, body of paper, quotes, sources).
- Paper is to be typed or computer printed single-sided only. Letter font 12 point.
- Paragraphs are to be indented one-half (1/2) inch from left margin.
- Quotations that run less than four (4) lines are incorporated in the body of the paragraph. Quotations are to be indented one (1) inch from left margin if the quotation runs more than four (4) lines.
- References are to be acknowledged in the body of the text. Sources used are to be listed on a separate page after the body of the paper (titled Works cited). Please number as the next page following the last page of the body of the paper. All entries should be in alphabetical order. "Bibliography" is acceptable for the sources page.
- A Title Page is required using double line spacing and includes; the student's name, address (home, school or parish) city, state, zip code, phone number, school name, grade level, and number of words in paper (excluding Works Cited/References section).
- Page numbers are to be placed in the upper right hand corner at one-half (1/2) inch from the top margin at the right margin; the student's name should not appear in front of the page number. Running Heads are not to be used.
- Drawings, maps, charts, pictures, etc. are not to be on the title page or body of the paper.
- Wikipedia is not to be used as a reference in this writing contest

## **Judging Criteria**

- Each paper will be evaluated in these categories with a maximum number of points allocated for each category: (1) Comprehension [30 points], (2) Organization [20 points], (3) Conclusion [15points], (4) Creativity [20 points], and (5) Writing [15 points]
- Please refer to the Judging Criteria Sheet (on the website) for assistance in learning how the judges will evaluate the student paper. The suggested questions are not limiting criteria for the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating the student paper.
- The student's title page will be removed and the paper will be given a number prior to be given to the judges, so the judges are able to evaluate each paper without prejudice.
- All papers submitted to the judges to be evaluated are to be without any markings
- Student papers will be disqualified if there are any markings on the paper as it is evaluated
- The Irish Historian at each level will determine the minimum score for the student paper to be forwarded to the next level within the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.

## **Contact**

- **Please email entries to:**  
**Alice Hallahan**  
**ahallah2@naz.edu**
- Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. National Website: [www.ladiesaoh.com](http://www.ladiesaoh.com)