



2023 ONLINE ESSAY CONTEST

Cultural Exchanges in Our Lives

Call for original literary nonfiction essays researching, analyzing, and using critical thinking processes to create an original essay in a narrative story format with personalized characterizations.

Culture is defined as “the ideas, customs, and social behavior of a particular people or society.” Cultural exchange is simply sharing any aspect of our culture with someone else from a different background and vice versa. It could be any aspect of our lives: clothes, food, music, sports, language, traditions, ideas, knowledge, architecture, and customs.

Do factual research and interviews. Use your understanding to create a written account, called a narrative, based on facts (nonfiction) for your essay.

A reference list is required. Please provide in-text citations of sources throughout the essay.

SUBJECT CONTENT: Research, analyze and reflect on theme’s topic. Here are some suggestions:

- Consider customs you enjoy or a new custom from someone who has a different background.
 - Do you have a Hero or Heroes that are from a different background? What are similarities and differences that you share?
 - Describe whether your community has unique customs that may be different from other places.
 - Do you have a custom(s) from ancestors representing a personal family heritage?
 - Is there a custom in another country or countries that you would like to experience?
 - Travel: Have you gone on a trip and interacted with people from another place? What are similarities and differences that you noticed?
 - Is there a place you would like to travel to where you think their customs may be different from yours? What would the similarities be?
 - What special customs would you like to share that may inspire curiosity by others? What makes it the way it is?
 - To view gifts from cultures around the world, given to President George Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush, please visit www.bush41library.tamu.edu/museum-collections or visit onsite at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum.
- Address: 1000 George Bush Dr. W, College Station, TX 77845

Eligibility: Grades 4-12 Students of 15 counties in Texas Education Service Center Region 6.

Not eligible: Family of staff at George & Barbara Bush Foundation or Bush 41 Library and Museum.

Essays must be screened by teachers or homeschool parents for appropriate content.

Plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and will disqualify an entry.

One entry per student per contest. The Bush Library retains the right to use entries.

ONLINE SUBMISSIONS: <https://www.bush41.org/education/art-and-essay-contest>

ONLINE SUBMISSIONS: Begin Mon., January 23 and close Thurs., March 22nd at 11:59 p.m.

All essay entries shall be scanned/photographed and uploaded to:
Bush41.org/education/art-and-essay-contest.

Please include a copy of the signed parent/guardian permission form.

For more information, email: bush.education@nara.gov

FORMAT

Cover page: Student's name, grade, teacher, school, and title. Other pages: title and page number upper right.

Length Requirements plus full Bibliography (with notations of references in essay):

Grades 9 – 12: 5-6 pages with additional reference pages. Minimum 1,200 words and an average of 1,500 words.

Grades 6 – 8: 2-3 full pages and add reference page. • Grades 4 – 5: 1-2 full pages and add reference page.

AWARDS

Grades 9 – 12: \$100 gift certificate Grades 6 – 8: \$75 gift certificate Grades 4 – 5: \$50 gift certificate

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AWARDS CEREMONY

- The Awards Ceremony for the Art and Essay Contests will be Wednesday, April 26, 2023. Begins at 4:15 p.m in the Annenberg Presidential Library Conference Center’s Frymire Auditorium.
- The 2023 Outstanding Educator Awards will be presented with appreciation for consistently supporting the enrichment and creativity of students through outstanding dedication, inspiration and encouragement above and beyond the classroom.
- THIS CONTEST IS FUNDED BY THE GEORGE & BARBARA BUSH FOUNDATION.
- All students and parents/guardians must sign and date the permission slip below.

UPLOAD PERMISSION SLIP

1. Submit my original work to the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum for critiquing and judging.

2. Permit the Bush Library and Museum to display, reproduce or use my original work for any purpose.
3. Grant permission to the Bush Library to list the student's name, grade, school and I.S.D. in future use.
4. Grant and convey title of my work to the Bush Library and Museum, as required.

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Parent/Guardian's Name and Phone: _____

Title of Entry: _____

Teacher's Name and Phone: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: / /

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____
