

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.

2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing 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"

2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing 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
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.

2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Timelines:

- Contest Opens September 2016 **National Historian submits to State by September 1, 2016; State Historians to County and Division Historians by September 15, 2016**
Schools receive packages and students begin writing papers October 1, 2016
- 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

2016-2017. National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest National Awards:

National Award	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2
First Place	\$500	\$1,000
Second Place	\$250	\$500
Third Place	\$125	\$250
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100

2016-2017. National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Rules and Guidelines:

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

Writing Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:

- 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.
- Paper is to use double line spacing throughout the paper including the (1) title page, (2) body of paper, (3) quotations, and (4) sources used page (Works Cited)
- Paper is to be typed or computer printed single-sided only
- Letter font 12 point
- Paragraphs are to be indented one-half (½) inch from left margin, the indented line alerts the reader to a new paragraph as you use double lines spacing throughout the paper
- 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. The title Works cited for this page.
- The Works cited should be numbered as the next page following the last page of the body of the paper. All entries should be in alphabetical order.
- The term "Bibliography" is acceptable for the sources used page

Additional Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:

- Title Page is to be provided using double line spacing and must provide 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 exclusive of the Works Cited/References section
- The Title Page should not be numbered
- Page numbers are to be placed in the upper right hand corner at one-half (½) inch from the top margin at the right margin; the student's name should not appear in front of the page number
- Page numbers should be consecutive beginning with the first page of the body of the paper through the Works Cited/References section of the paper.
- Running Heads are not to be used
- Drawings, maps, charts, pictures, etc. are not to be included in the title page or the body of the paper
- Wikipedia is not to be used as a reference in this writing contest

2016-2017 National LAOH Irish History 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 [15 points], (4) Creativity [20 points], and (5) Writing [15 points]
- Please refer to the Judging Criteria Sheet 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 to be achieved for the student paper to be forwarded to the next level within the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.
- Further Information:**
 - Contact: Dee Wallace, LAOH National Irish Historian
206 Bellewood Drive
Aiken, South Carolina 29803
Phone: 706-955-6574
Email: deew93395@gmail.com
 - Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. National Website: www.ladiesaoh.com