



October 1, 2019

RE: ELKS 2019-2020 Americanism Essay Contest

Prizes: \$50 at the Local, Level, \$500 at the State Level and National Contest

Dear Student,

The Elks is a fraternal organization with a focus on Veterans and Children in need.

Each year, the Elks sponsor a national essay contest for **5 – 6th and 7 – 8th grade Students.**

RULES:

- 1) Essays should not exceed 300 words.
- 2) Essays will be graded on spelling, grammar and punctuation. (30 points)
- 3) Originality, avoiding over-used phrases. (30 points)
- 4) Develop the Theme: staying focused on your ideas and thoughts, no rambling. (40 points)

ESSAY THEME: “What Does Freedom of Speech Mean to Me”

DUE DATE: December 15, 2019 – Essay and Cover sheet

Submit via – Email: jcorwinstraub@gmail.com

Submit via – US Postal Svc: Des Plaines Elks Lodge #1526, 495 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016

Prize Info: Des Plaines Elks will select the winner of both divisions, with winners each receiving \$50.

The winning essays will be submitted to our District for further selection. District essay winners will then **compete at the State level for a chance to receive \$500 and one night lodging in Springfield, IL along with banquet tickets for the family** at the May 2020 Elks State convention in Springfield. The National winner will receive recognition at the July 2020 Elks National convention in Baltimore, MD.

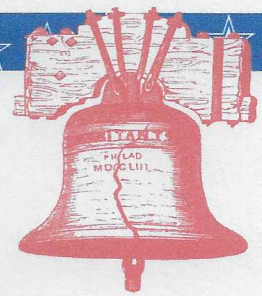
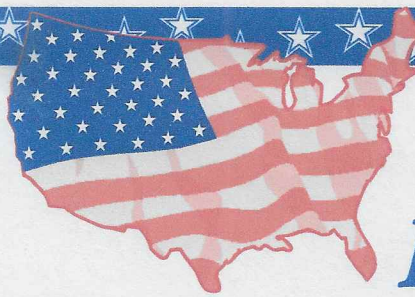
Enclosed you will find rules for the contest and the essay contest sheet. Please contact me with any questions, jcorwinstraub@gmail.com or 847.971.2171

We look forward to reading some amazing essays written by YOU!

Regards,

John C Straub, PER, Americanism Chair, Des Plaines Elks Lodge 1526

This activity is not sponsored by Community Consolidated School District 59, any of its schools, or groups officially associated with the District.



“What Does Freedom of Speech Mean to Me”

Essay Contest

Sponsored by Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of The United States of America

RULES:

1. Eligible participants must be Students enrolled in the 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade at the time of the contest.
2. Essay length is not to exceed 300 words.
3. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink. Also, Essay must be submitted as written (or typed) by the entrant.
4. Essay must be submitted for judging to the Elks Lodge nearest to the address of the entrant.
5. Participant must be identified by name, grade, school attending and sponsoring Elks Lodge on the Essay.

AWARDS:

Plaques will be awarded by the Grand Lodge for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place for national winning essays in Division I and Division II. Winners will be announced at the Grand Lodge Session in Baltimore, Maryland, July 5-8, 2020.

ENTRY DATE:

Essay should be submitted to local Elks Lodge on/before December 15, 2019.

The Essay Contest Cover Sheet must be completed for each level of competition and remain attached to the Essay.

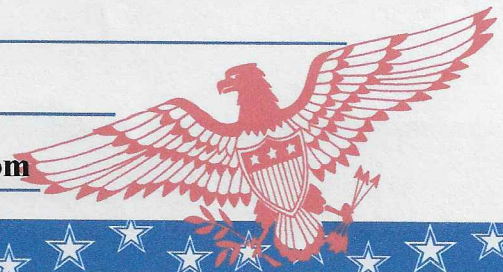


Sponsoring Elks Lodge: Des Plaines Lodge No. 1526

Address: 495 Lee Street , Des Plaines Illinois 60016

Contact Person: John Straub, PER,

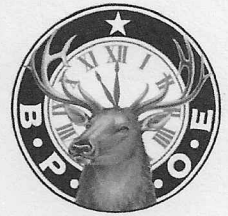
Phone No. 847.971.2171 e-mail: jcorwinstraub@gmail.com





2019-2020 AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST COVER SHEET

(MUST be attached to each Essay)



“What Does Freedom of Speech Mean to Me”

Section 1 — to be filled out by student

Division I: 5th or 6th Grade

(Circle One)

Division II: 7th or 8th Grade

School _____ Teacher's Name _____

School Address _____ City _____ State _____

Student's Name _____ Male Female

Age _____ Grade _____ Parent's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____
(used only to contact the winners)

Send to Local Lodge no later than December 15, 2019.

Section 2 — to be filled out by Lodge Chairman

Chairman's Name John Straub

Chairman's Home Phone Number (847) 971-2171

Sponsoring Lodge Name & Number Des Plaines Elks Lodge #1526

Address 495 Lee Street City Des Plaines State IL ZIP 60016

Select the top three essays from each division and send them to the District Americanism Chairman by January 31, 2020 or the date established by the State Chairman. (Top three only, do not separate as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.)

Section 3 — to be filled out by District Chairman

Chairman's Name _____ District _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Chairman's Home Phone Number (_____) _____

Select the top three essays from each division and send them to the State Americanism Chairman by February 28, 2020 or the date established by the State Chairman. (Top three only, do not separate as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.)

Section 4 — to be filled out by State Chairman

Chairman's Name _____ State _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Chairman's Home Phone Number (_____) _____

Select the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners for your State and send the 1st place winner from each division to the Contest Administrator, David P. Cioe, by March 31, 2020.