



150 YEARS
1864 - 2014

Clerc Center Student ASL & English Essay Contest

Background

In 1857, Congress chartered a school for the deaf and blind in the nation's capital. With its success evident, seven years later Congress allocated increased funding for the establishment of a collegiate program, which today has evolved into Gallaudet University. That pre-collegiate school, today known as the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center and which operates Kendall Demonstration Elementary School (KDES) and the Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD), has been witness to 150 years of extraordinary vitality and impact, both on campus and around the globe.

Mission

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Gallaudet University, KDES and MSSD students are given an opportunity to investigate on important events in Gallaudet's history and its impact on their lives as deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Students will submit either a written or a signed essay expressing how they have been inspired or impacted by a particular event in Gallaudet's history.

Essay Question

“Which historical event in Gallaudet's 150 years has inspired or profoundly impacted you and why?”

Criteria/Guidelines

There will be a separate contest for KDES and MSSD students. Students in grades 6 through 8 at KDES are eligible to participate in the KDES contest. All students at MSSD are eligible to participate in the MSSD contest.

All students are given options to submit their essay either in ASL or English. Both options share the same criteria except for presentation. All of the submissions must be relevant to the contest question, and it must include a description of a particular event in Gallaudet's history and reasons why it made an impact on the student's lives. Each entry must be an original work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Plagiarism means copying another person's words, ideas, or writing as one's own work. Appropriate citations and references using the 6th edition APA formatting are required.

Guidelines for KDES students

Signed Essays

- Signed essays must be video recorded.
- Signed entries should limit up to five (5) minutes.
- ASL presentation must be clear and easy to follow.
- Appropriate references and citations must be included in the video.
- Videos may be saved as .mov, .mp4, .mpg., .wmv, or .rm files.

Written Essays

- Written essays should be typed electronically and saved as a PDF with the student's last name.
- English text must be clear and easy to follow.
- The essay text is limited to three (3) double-spaced, 12-point pages.
- The essay text should not exceed 500 words.

Guidelines for MSSD students

Signed Essays

- Signed essays must be video recorded.
- Signed entries should limit up to eight (8) minutes.
- ASL presentation must be clear and easy to follow.
- Appropriate references and citations must be included in the video.
- Videos may be saved as .mov, .mp4, .mpg., .wmv, or .rm files.

Written Essays

- Written essays should be typed electronically and save as a PDF with the student's last name.
- English text must be clear and easy to follow.
- The essay text is limited to five (5) double-spaced, 12-point pages.
- The essay text should not exceed 1,000 words.

Submission Requirements

- Essays must meet contest requirements in order to be considered for any award.
- All essays must include contestants' names and teachers' names and their email addresses.
- All essays will be submitted electronically as an e-mail attachment or through Dropbox to clercenter150@gmail.com by March 7, 2014 at 11:59 p.m.
- Video essays must be submitted as .mov, .mp4, .mpg., .wmv, or .rm files.
- Written essays must be submitted as a PDF file.

Contest winners will be notified by March 25, 2014.

Contest Rubric

	4	3	2	1
ORIGINALITY	Essay is highly creative and unique. Essay captures and maintains reader's attention.	Essay is creative and original. Essay captures reader's attention but does not maintain it throughout.	Essay is partially original and is somewhat creative. Essay does not capture the reader's attention right away but includes interesting details.	No originality or creativity. The essay does not capture or maintain reader's attention.
PRESENTATION	The essay is engaging, lively and interesting. Point-of-view and facts fully presented and supported.	The essay is interesting and enjoyable. Point-of-view presented and supported with some facts.	The essay is somewhat interesting. Point-of-view expressed but limited use of factual information.	The essay is flat and stiff. Point-of-view is somewhat presented and lacks supporting facts.
RELEVANCE TO THEME	The essay indicates strong and direct relevance to the theme.	The essay indicates substantial relevance to the theme	The essay indicates some relevance to theme.	No relevance to theme.

More information

<http://bit.ly/GU150studentcontest>



150 YEARS
1864 - 2014