



2017 - 2018 International Achievement Week Observance
Theme: "When the World Calls, Omega Men Answer"

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Announcement of our Annual

International High School Essay Contest

As a mandated element of the Annual International Achievement Week Observance

November 15 - 21, 2017

Awards: Four College Scholarships

1st Scholarship: \$5,000; 2nd Scholarship: \$3,000; 3rd Scholarship: \$2,000; 4th Scholarship: \$1,000

Eligibility: The Contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors who submit an essay application through a Chapter of the Fraternity

Contest Closes: October 20, 2017

RULES

The essay must be entitled:

"What Actions Can You Take to Promote Social Justice and Embrace Diversity of All People"

The essay must be **original** and neither previously published nor secured by copyright.

The essay must be between 700 and 750 words in length.

The type-written, double-spaced essay may be submitted via postal service or email in Microsoft Word

The following information for the contestant must appear on the first page in this manner:

Title: _____

An Essay By: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Name of High School: _____

Address of High School: _____

Contest Name: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity International High School Essay Contest

Name of Chapter Sponsoring Project: _____

Location of Chapter: _____

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped on the email not later than midnight, **October 20, 2017**, and **sent to an Omega Psi Phi Chapter Sponsoring the Essay Contest. Essays are NOT to be sent to the Fraternity's Headquarters facility.**

Persons submitting manuscripts thereby grant to the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** the right to keep the manuscripts and to exercise full publishing rights to them. Awards will be announced on or about **June 1, 2018**, and the decision of the judges will be final. The manuscripts must present an adequate treatment of the essay topic. Winners may be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essay was submitted. Awards will be submitted to each winner, **upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required.** Awards must be claimed within 18 months after the announcement date to be valid.

RATING CRITERIA FOR ESSAYS

- 1. Development of Topic/Thesis:** (30 possible pts.) Topic well developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)
- 2. Progression:** (20 possible pts.) Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information
- 3. Readability:** (25 possible pts.) Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader's attention)
- 4. Grammar:** (15 possible pts.) Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same
- 5. Spelling:** (5 possible pts.)
- 6. Punctuation:** (5 possible pts.)