



2021 ONLINE ESSAY CONTEST ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Call for original literary nonfiction essays researching, analyzing, and using critical thinking processes to create an original essay in a narrative story format with characterizations and personalized. Consider environmental issues and the impact being made in your life or others' lives. Based on factual research, use your understanding of environmental issues found via land, water, air or space. What best practices could help to diminish your environmental issue? A bibliography or list of reference sources used is required. All essay submissions shall be made online only.

SUBJECT CONTENT: Research, analyze and reflect on theme's topic. Here are environmental topics or use another topic:

- Provide reasons why water pollution is a concern for us and our environment.
- Explain deforestation and how it impacts our lives. Please include a discussion of the role of plants in our ecosystem.
- Consider the varied impacts of different types of pollution (air, water, land). How can we reduce pollution?
- Explain the role of biodiversity in our lives and identify threats to biodiversity, especially threats to amphibian and insect populations.
- What environmental issues loom in space? How do those issues impact our environment on earth?
- Consider how the changing climate impacts biodiversity.
- Examine how waste management impacts our environment and health. What can we do to improve waste management?
- Discuss a leader's impact in reducing modern environmental hazards to create a better life.

Research topics online: "Texas Sea Grant Exhibit": <https://texasseagrant.org/>; "The Oceans of Plastic Exhibit": <http://www.sheliarogersfineart.com/OceansOfPlastic.html>; "George Bush: An Environmental President's Exhibit." EPA's environmental education webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/education> linked to National Environmental Education Act of 1990. President Bush supported environmental laws.

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., February 1st and close Wed., March 3rd at 11:59 p.m.

All essay entries shall be photographed and uploaded to [Bush41.org/education/art-and-essay-contest](https://www.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

To answer specific questions, email: shirley.hammond@nara.gov

FORMAT

- Format: Typed, Arial font, double-spaced, one-inch margins; sources cited in essay and on attached page(s).
- 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.

JURORS

Warren Finch, Director Barbara Orville, Education Docent Shirley Hammond, Education Director

AWARDS

AWARDS TO BE EMAILED

First place gift certificates given per grade based on individual essay:

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

High School essay contest entrants will be entered in the 2021 Online Young Spurs Writing Contest (Learn more at <http://www.themayborn.com/young-spurs-writing-contest>.) Winners: a virtual workshop by an author and conference! Please indicate your interest: ___YES___NO (If no, your essay will not be entered in the Young Spurs Writing Contest.)

All students will receive a certificate of participation.

VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

- The Virtual Awards Ceremony for the Art and Essay Contests will be Thursday, April 29, 2021. Begins at 4:15 p.m.
 - The 2021 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.
- Please submit a copy of the permission slip when entry is uploaded.**

UPLOAD PERMISSION SLIP

I hereby agree to:

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.

Student’s Name (print clearly):

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 Grade:

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Please print Parent/Guardian’s Email: _____

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: ___/___/___