



A Fraternal Organization

GRAND LODGE
AMERICANISM COMMITTEE
JAMES E. DESMARAIS, SR.
Essay Contest Administrator

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2009-2010 AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST COVER SHEET (MUST be attached to each Essay)

The American Dream: What Is It?

Section 1 — to be filled out by student

Division I: 5th or 6th Grade

(Circle One)

Division II: 7th or 8th Grade

School _____

Student's Name _____ Male Female

Age ____ Grade ____ Parent's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ ZIP _____

Home Phone Number (_____) _____ (used only to contact the winners)

Send to Local Lodge no later than: _____

Section 2 — to be filled out by Lodge Chairman

Chairman's Name _____

Chairman's Home Phone Number (_____) _____

Sponsoring Lodge Name & Number _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ ZIP _____

Select the top three essays from each division and send them to the District Americanism Chairman by January 30, 2010 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 15, 2010 or the date established by the State Chairman. (Top three only, do not separate as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.)

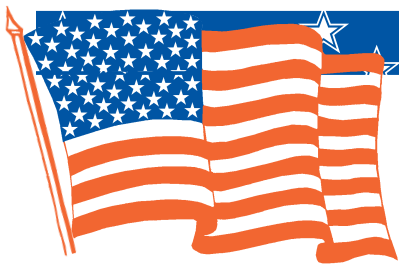
Section 4 — to be filled out by State Chairman

Chairman's Name _____ State _____

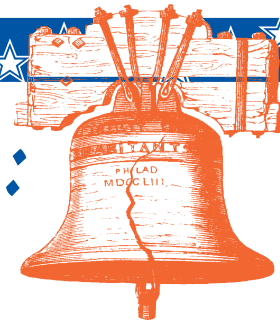
Chairman's Home Phone Number (_____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ ZIP _____

Select the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners for your State and send the 1st place winner from each division to the contest Administrator, James E. Desmarais, Sr., by March 31, 2010.



"The American Dream: What Is It?"



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 250 words.
3. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink.
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:

Prizes awarded by the Grand Lodge for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place for National winning essays in Division I and Division II will be announced at the Grand Lodge Session in Orlando, FL, July 4-8, 2010 as follows:

	Division I {5th & 6th Grades}	Division II {7th & 8th Grades}
1st Place	\$1,000 US Savings Bond	\$1,000 US Savings Bond
2nd Place	\$500 US Savings Bond	\$500 US Savings Bond
3rd Place	\$250 US Savings Bond	\$250 US Savings Bond

ENTRY DATE:

Essay should be submitted to local Elks Lodge on/before January 10, 2010.

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

Sponsoring Elks Lodge: _____ No. _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone No. _____





2009-2010

Americanism Essay Contest



Essay Theme: *"The American Dream: What Is It?"*

1. Eligible participants must be a student enrolled in the fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth grade during the normal 2009-10 school year, preceding June 30, 2010. **Deadline: Must be submitted to local lodge by January 15, 2010**
 2. Essay length is not to exceed 250 words.
 3. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink.
 4. Essay must be submitted for judging to the Elks lodge administering the contest at his or her school or, if unknown, to lodge nearest to home address of entrant.
 5. Entrant must be identified on essay by name, home address, grade, school attended and sponsoring lodge. (Lodge may enter lodge information on essay.) NOTE: National winners must have Social Security numbers to receive their bonds.
 6. Judging criteria:
 - Originality: Avoid the use of trite or worn out words and phrases – 30 points
 - Development of theme: Stay focused on ideas and thoughts. Don't ramble – 40 points
 - Mechanics and neatness: Use proper spelling, grammar and punctuation – 30 points
- There are two divisions for judging of the essays:
Division 1 (combined fifth and sixth grades)
Division 2 (combined seventh and eighth grades)

National prizes for first-, second- and third-place winning essays in Division 1 and Division II will be presented to the home lodge of the winners at the Grand Lodge Session in Orlando, FL, July 4-8, 2010, as follows:

First place	\$1,000 U.S. Patriot Savings Bond
Second place	\$500 U.S. Patriot Savings Bond
Third place	\$250 U.S. Patriot Savings Bond