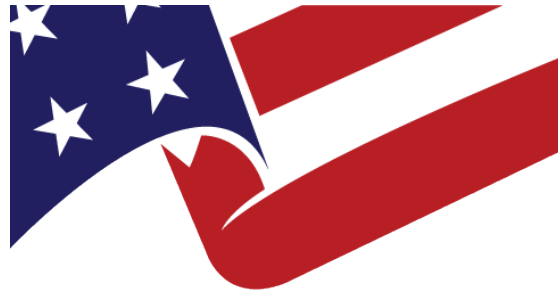


The Modesto Bee

Proudly Presents



American Heritage

Scholarship Program

2016 STUDENT ESSAY PACKET

The American Heritage Scholarship Series seeks to increase our understanding of what it means to be an American. Unlike other nations, the essence of American nationality has little to do with our country of origin or the specifics of our religious faith. While the American spirit embraces such diversity, what unites us as a people is a shared set of principles and ideals which proclaim our freedoms and set forth our responsibilities.

Speakers:

Adam Christianson, *Stanislaus County Sheriff*
John Lee, *Americans for Policy Reform*
Ruben Villalobos, *Superior Court Judge*

Prompt:

Recently, propositions to decriminalize, or legalize, the recreational use of marijuana have been introduced at the federal, state and local levels of government. The movement has been met with oppositional efforts by State and local municipalities, particularly enforcement officials, who wish to maintain marijuana's status as a prohibited substance. Although these groups may hold opposing viewpoints (even amongst themselves), voters, interest groups, elected officials and government agencies have a vested interest in this potentially volatile initiative.

Who in our system of government should have the power to decide on the legality of the recreational use of marijuana?

PRESENTATION:

September 27, 2016

7:00pm

Beyer High School Theater

1717 Sylvan Ave.

Modesto, CA 95355

The presentation will be live streamed and recorded for viewing at: www.stancoe.org/go/americanheritage

Co-sponsored by:



Modesto City Schools and Stanislaus County Office of Education





American Heritage
Scholarship Program

Entry # _____
(Leave blank)

Essay Application Form

(Please print clearly or type your information on this form. The form must be completed and submitted with essay.)

Name: _____ **Grade:** _____

School: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

Teacher's Name: _____

I declare that this essay is my original work, and give permission for it to be reprinted and used for educational/promotional purposes related to the American Heritage Project:

- I attended the presentation on September 27th I watched the live streamed version on September 27th
 I watched the recorded version on a later date

Student's Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Consent:

I _____ consent for my son/daughter to
(parent/guardian)

participate in the American Heritage Essay Scholarship Competition, and authorize the sponsors to reprint my son/daughter's essay, to photograph and videotape my son/daughter, and to reproduce my son/daughter's essay and the photographs and videotapes for publicity and/or educational/promotional purposes related to the American Heritage Project.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

STUDENT CHECKLIST

Please checklist below to make sure your essay includes everything required.

- ___ Bibliography attached, IN MLA FORMAT
- ___ Total of four sources cited and underlined within essay, one of which must be comments by the guest speaker
- ___ Essay double spaced, 12 point font, and 2,000 words or less
- ___ Pages numbered
- ___ Student signature completed on the Essay Application Form
- ___ Parent signature completed on the Essay Application Form

Entries must be postmarked by Wednesday, October 19, 2016 or hand-delivered to the Stanislaus County Office of Education (Administration Office), 1100 H Street, Modesto, CA 95354, no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.



American Heritage
Scholarship Program

2016 ESSAY CONTEST RULES

FAILURE TO FOLLOW ANY OF THE RULES BELOW WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION

1. The American Heritage Essay Scholarship Competition is open to all 11th and 12th grade students attending any public, private, or home school in Stanislaus County.
2. All participants must attend the presentation or view the presentation online. **The presentation will take place on September 27, 2016 at the Beyer High School Theater (1717 Sylvan Ave., Modesto 95355), beginning at 7:00 PM.**

The presentation will be live streamed on September 27th at 7:00pm and will be available online sometime during the week of October 3rd www.stancoe.org/go/americanheritage

3. Students must do their own work. Teachers may not provide feedback of any kind on individual essays.
4. Students must support their response to the essay prompt by citing a minimum of four valid sources, one of which must be comments from the guest speaker. (no printed encyclopedias, Wikipedia, or similar sources)
5. Students must underline the sources of the citations in their essay.
EXAMPLE: Even volunteers seem to feel bitter about the idea, claiming that “it undercuts the very idea of volunteering” (Allen, 2010).
6. **Essay and bibliography MUST be in MLA format with bibliography attached to the essay.** A sample bibliography has been included in this packet.

FAILURE TO CITE SOURCES WITHIN ESSAY AND ATTACH A BIBLIOGRAPHY PAGE WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.

7. Students must submit ONE copy of their essay. The essay must be either typewritten or word-processed. It must be double-spaced using one side of white paper (8-1/2 x 11 inches). Pages must be numbered consecutively.
8. The maximum number of words is 2,000. Type font must be 12 pt., black ink, Times New Roman font.
9. The completed application form must accompany the essay. **The student’s name must NOT appear anywhere on the essay itself, only on the application form.**
10. The program sponsors reserve the right to reprint entries. Entries will not be returned.
11. **Entries can be delivered by mail or hand-delivered.** All hand-delivered entries must be received at the Stanislaus County Office of Education (Superintendent’s Office – 2nd Floor), 1100 H Street, Modesto, CA 95354, no later than **5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.** Entries mailed to the County Office must be **postmarked by Wednesday, October 19, 2016.**

ESSAY JUDGING:

A distinguished group of local educators, writers, community leaders, and representatives from the legal community will judge the essays. Judging guidelines include:

- Focus, Scope, Organization and Development (80%)
 - Addresses the topic and all aspects of the task
 - Organized clearly and consistently based on a central purpose
 - Provides substantial and specific evidence to support positions

- Language, Style and Conventions (20%)
 - Demonstrates well-constructed sentence structure
 - Demonstrates precise word choice
 - Free of errors in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation

Scholarships and Awards (based on available funding):

- One \$2000 scholarship
- Two \$1500 scholarships
- Two \$1000 scholarships
- Four \$ 500 scholarships
- Ten \$ 100 cash awards

Notification of Winners:

Winners will be notified via email by Friday, November 4, 2016.

An awards ceremony will be held November 17, 2016 at the Stanislaus County Office of Education in the Board Room (second floor), 1100 H Street, Modesto, CA, at 7:00 pm.

Additional Information:

Contact: Stanislaus County Office of Education
Brittney Boone: bboone@stancoe.org 238-1706

TIMELINE	
Week of August 15 th	Application Packets sent to all high schools
September 27 th	Presentation Beyer High School Theater (1717 Sylvan Ave., Modesto 95355) Live Stream Version of Presentation available for viewing at: www.stancoe.org/go/americanheritage
October 3 rd	Archived video available for viewing at: www.stancoe.org/go/americanheritage
October 19 th	Essays due to the Superintendent’s Office at the Stanislaus County Office of Education <i>(Can be postmarked by 5 PM on October 16th)</i>
November 17 th	Awards Ceremony SCOE Boardroom (1100 H Street, Modesto – 2 nd floor) <i>*Park in the back lot on G street between 11th and 12th</i>

**American Heritage 2016
Essay Prompt:**

Recently, propositions to decriminalize, or legalize, the recreational use of marijuana have been introduced at the federal, state and local levels of government. The movement has been met with oppositional efforts by State and local municipalities, particularly enforcement officials, who wish to maintain marijuana’s status as a prohibited substance. Although these groups may hold opposing viewpoints (even amongst themselves), voters, interest groups, elected officials and government agencies have a vested interest in this potentially volatile initiative.

Who in our system of government should have the power to decide on the legality of the recreational use of marijuana?

Documentation of Sources and a Sample Works Cited Page

MLA Format

Essay Formatting:

- Use Times New Roman, in 12 point size font.
- Double space throughout paper, including the Works Cited page.
- Set margins to 1 inch at top, bottom, and both sides.
- Indent the first word of a paragraph by ½ inch or 5 spaces.
- **DO NOT** use a title page. Center your title on the first page
- Number all pages consecutively, including the works cited page.

In-Text Citations:

- References in your paper must clearly point to specific sources in your Works Cited page.
- Within parentheses, list the author's name and the page number of specifically cited content.
- If you have two authors with the same last name, also include the author's first initial.
- If you have several works by the same author, also include the title (abbreviate if long).
- Is no author is listed, use the title (abbreviate if long).
- If using the title, remember to use correct punctuation: underline book titles, use quotation marks for journal articles, short stories, book chapters, etc.
- The author's name can be referred to within the sentence. Example: O'Rourke and Rodrigues have argued this point (24-25).
- Or the author's name can be referred to within the parenthetical reference. Example: Some scholars have argued this point (O'Rourke and Rodrigues 24-25).

Works Cited Page:

- Continue page numbering from the body of your essay.
- Center the title "Works Cited."
- Alphabetize entries by the author's last name.
- If no author, alphabetize by the title (ignore A, An, The).
- Use a hanging indent (second line of source is indented by one tab).
- Works Cited Examples:

BASIC MODEL FOR BOOKS:

Author(s). *Title of Work*. City, State: Publisher, Date. Medium.

BASIC MODEL FOR MAGAZINE AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

Author(s). "Title of Article." Genre (where applicable). *Title of Publication*. Volume Issue Number.

Date of Publication: Page Number(s). *Database Name*. Web. Date of Access.

BASIC MODEL FOR INTERNET SOURCES:

Author(s). "Title of Article" or "Section of Website (Genre if no title is available)." *Title of Website*.

Date of Posting or Last Update. Web. Date of Access (if different from Posting or Update).

<URL>.

MARGINS & PAGINATION

Standard heading and pagination include the components listed below. MLA requires no additional title page, but individual instructors may have other requirements.

The following is an example of the first page of a manuscript.

(1")	(½") Martinez 1
(1") Juan Martinez	
Mrs. Carpenter	
English 7	
10 September 2002	
An Analysis of <u>Macbeth</u>	
The witches' ominous declaration, "Fair is foul, and foul is fair,"	
(1") (I. i. 11) introduces the motif of appearance versus reality in Shakespeare's	(1")
tragedy <u>Macbeth</u> . From the very first scene, it is clear that the nature of	

Pagination refers to the method of numbering pages. Type or write your last name before each page number in the upper right-hand corner one-half inch down from the top margin. Below is an example of page 2 of an essay.

	(½") Martinez 2
(1") when Hecate laughs, "And you all know security/ Is mortals' chiefest	(1")
enemy" (III.v.32-33). The weird sisters then raise three "fair" apparitions.	

Parentheses are used to indicate to the student proper spacing.

Adapted from the Modesto City Schools Writer's Handbook, 2008 Revision

Additional Resources:

- Refer to the Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University's website:
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
- Utilize bibliographic management tools such as:
 - www.citationmachine.net
 - www.easybib.com
- **The following websites provide guidelines on evaluating sources, misleading websites, and criteria for evaluation.**
 - https://www.facebook.com/note.php?note_id=302843706401480
 - <http://www.lib.berkelev.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html>
 - <https://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/ref/research/webeval.html>
 - <http://eduscapes.com/tap/topic32.htm>