



2023-2024 International Achievement Week Observance  
Theme: “Omega Men Promoting a Harmonious Future  
Through Friendship and Service”

**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 12 - 19, 2023**

**Eligibility:** The Contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors who submit an essay application through to Upsilon Omega – St. Louis Graduate Chapter

**Contest Closes: October 20, 2023**

**RULES**

The essay must be entitled:

**“With Politics gaining the bulk of discussion, what can the younger generation do to ensure that elected leaders understand the impact of gaining their vote?”**

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: Upsilon Omega**

**Location of Chapter: St. Louis, MO.**

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped on the email before midnight, **October 10, 2023**, 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 the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. the right to keep the manuscripts and exercise full publishing rights to them. The Winners will be announced on **or about June 1, 2024, and the judges' decision 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 when the essay was submitted. Awards will be forwarded to each winner **upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled in. 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.) The topic is well developed (covers and produces 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 the reader's attention)
- 4. Grammar:** (15 possible pts.) Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking the same
- 5. Spelling:** (5 possible pts.)
- 6. Punctuation:** (5 possible pts.)