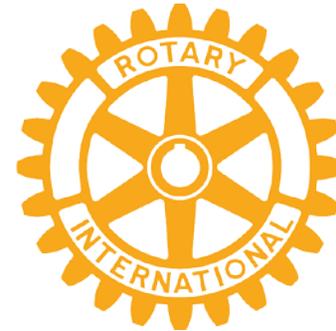


Rotary International District 7640



Rotary



Four-Way Test Essay Contest 2017-2018

www.rotarydistrict7640.org

FOUR WAY TEST ESSAY CONTEST

The Four-Way Test Essay contest in District 7640 will be a project in our District, with the hope that it will continue on from year to year and become a tradition! Hopefully all clubs will participate and help get the youth in our communities involved in Rotary, reaching out to all schools.

This project is being done throughout our Zone with other Districts participating, and has become very successful. Governor Tom is challenging our Clubs to have contests in their local schools and agreed that if multiple Clubs have contests, he would have their winners vie for District honors and prizes. When at least 3 Clubs respond and three prizes will be awarded with the first place winners presenting their essays at the District Conference.

We need every club to take action and participate. It would be great for all 46 clubs to get involved in the Essay contest. Then every 9th grader in our District would know something about Rotary and our 4-Way Test. Think of the positive effect this would have on their lives, Interact Clubs, the public image of Rotary, and the future of Rotary. If your Club has indicated interest in the Essay contest for 2017-18, please contact District Chair, Marcie Dewey, District Interact Chair at marcie@arjtax.com.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROTARY CLUB

1. Agree to sponsor the contest.
2. Identify and contact the lead English teacher for ninth grade classes.
3. Review the contest rules on the District website: www.rotarydistrict7640.org.
4. Appoint a committee to evaluate the best essays submitted by the teachers from each school.
5. Select the Club winner(s) and submit the first place essay(s) to the District office by March 25, 2018.
6. Recognize the Club winners, parents and teacher(s), and award certificates/prizes.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROTARY DISTRICT

1. Display rules for the contest on the District website.
2. Provide cash awards for the District winners.
3. Appoint a committee to evaluate the winning essays submitted by the Clubs and select the District winners.
4. Invite the winners, their parents, and teachers to the District Conference where prizes will be awarded to the top three students and the winner will present the winning essay.
5. Display the winning essays on the District website.

Checklist and Specifics Concerning the Contest

- Original and personal work of the student. (9th grade students only, signed pledge required, page 9)
- No more than 1500 words, double spaced. (Specific administrative instructions attached, page 6)
- Written in Microsoft Word format.
- No graphics or highlighted text.
- Must be available to be published in the press.
- Must be approved by the student's parents. (page 9)
- Critical dates established and followed by all concerned for the conduct of the contest. (page 5)
- Initial screening of nominated essays is performed by the local school English department faculty. The most competitive essays (6-12) are then given to the sponsoring Rotary Club for final evaluation.
- A committee of the sponsoring Rotary Club evaluates the essays in accordance with an established Evaluation Guide. (page 7)
- Finalists, parents, and teachers are recognized at a sponsoring Rotary Club function and awards presented.
- Press release, with photo(s), submitted to local press. (sample, page 10)
- The winning essay from each Club is forwarded to the District Office by March 26, 2018

Recommendations

- A District-wide Four-Way Test Essay contest will continue in the 2017-2018 Rotary year.
- The winning Essays from all participating District Clubs must be in the District Office by March 26, 2018 to allow sufficient time for District judging, notifying the winners, and listing their names in the 2018 District Conference program booklet.
- Monetary awards: First Place - \$500, Second Place - \$300, Third Place - \$100

Four-Way Test Essay Contest District Contact:

Marcie Dewey, Washington Twp. Rotary Club
Cell: 856-217-8193 E-mail: marcie@arjtax.com

2017-2018 Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest Criteria

Topic of the essay:

Rotary's "Four-Way Test" and what it means to the conduct of my daily life.

The Four-Way Test:

Of the things we think, say and do,

1. Is it TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Purpose of the essay:

A written essay that explains the student's personal understanding of the "Four-Way Test", and how it relates to his/her life experiences and/or society. How does it influence what we think, say and do?

2017-2018 Rotary Four-Way Test Time Line

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Fall 2017 | Enlist the English Department or head English teacher of the local ninth grade classes. |
| February 2018 | Essays to be turned in to teachers. |
| March 3, 2018 | Teachers screen and evaluate essays. Competitive essays are submitted to the Sponsoring Rotary Club. |
| March 5 - 17, 2018 | Sponsoring Rotary Club committee selects winning essays. |
| March 23, 2018 | The last date for essays are to be submitted to District Office via e-mail at SJRotary.Districtoffice@verizon.net . |
| April 11, 2018 | District Four-Way Test Committee announces District winners. |

Administrative Instructions Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest

Eligibility: _____ High School ninth grade English students.

Format: Microsoft Word format will be used. The essay must be prepared for printing on white paper, size 8.5 X 11.0. The font will be Century Schoolbook, Arial, or Times New Roman. Font size will be 12 point. Do not insert identifying information on any sheet except the cover sheet. Lines will be double spaced. Do not insert graphics. The use of bold, italics, and/or underlining should be avoided.

Number of Copies: Two printed copies of the essay or a digital copy (with cover sheet) must be delivered/sent to the Rotary District 7640 Office or sent to SJRotary.Districtoffice@verizon.net.

Essay Length: The essay must not exceed 1500 words in length.

Cover Sheet: A cover sheet must be attached to each essay. See the attached format for the Cover Sheet.

Original Work: The essay must be the original work of the student submitting the essay for competition. Team writing and the use of work written by other sources, even if foot-noted, is not authorized. Participating students will sign the pledge on the Cover Sheet stating that the essay is their original work.

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest Evaluation Guide

| <u>Functional Area</u> | <u>Score</u> | <u>High Lights of the Functional Area</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| FOCUS | 20% | How the author displayed awareness and understanding of the purpose of the Essay. |
| CONTENT DEVELOPMENT | 20% | How well did the student display the story line consistent with the purpose of The Essay. |
| ORGANIZATION | 20% | How well did the author present a skillful pattern on the narrative presenting key points. |
| STYLE | 20% | How well the student uses control of the language/ literary devices/ sentence/ Paragraph structure. |
| SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT | 20% | Evaluator's overall assessment of the essay. |
| TOTAL: | 100% | |

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Contest Evaluation Work Sheet

Student Name:

Evaluation Score (maximum of 20 points per element):

FOCUS: _____

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

STYLE: _____

EVALUATOR'S ASSESSMENT: _____

TOTAL: _____

Rotary Four-Way Test Essay Cover Sheet
This sheet will be attached to each essay submitted

Rotary's Four Way Test
And
What It Means to the Conduct of my Daily Life
---by---

Student's Name _____

Student's Teacher _____

Student's School _____

Local Rotary Club Sponsor _____

Student's Home Mailing Address _____

Student's Home Telephone Number _____

I pledge that the research and written work on this essay are mine and mine alone. I understand the Rotary Club of _____ may publish this essay in whole or in part. There are _____ words in this essay.

Student Signature

Parent Name (Print)

Date
For Immediate Release
Rotary Club of _____

Parent Signature

Contact _____
Telephone _____
E-mail _____

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

The Rotary Club of _____ is pleased to announce the winners of its annual Four-Way Test essay contest for ninth grade English students at _____ High School. The Four-Way Test is a set of four questions that Rotarians use to assist in the conduct of their personal and professional lives. The questions are: “Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?” The theme of this year’s contest was “The Four Way Test in My Life.”

The Club recognized three students from _____ High School who were recognized and presented with monetary awards of _____, _____ and _____. The winners are:
1st place – List Name
2nd place – List Name
3rd place – List Name

With 1.2 million members in more than 200 countries and geographic areas, Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation support local and international projects that help people in need and promote understanding among cultures. For more information about the Rotary Club of _____, and to read the winning essays, visit www.rotarydistrict7640.org.

Suggested Photo Caption:

The Rotary Club of _____ awarded prizes to the winners of the Four-Way Test Essay contest and recognized their teachers. From left to right:
