

CALIFORNIA PIONEERS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**2012 ANNUAL
HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST**

\$2,100.00 IN PRIZE MONEY

DEADLINE - April 15, 2012

FOURTH GRADE	WINNER - \$100.00; a seat at the award luncheon plus a seat for a parent or guardian; a one year subscription to the <i>Trailblazer</i> . CLASSROOM – A Westward Ho! field trip up to \$400.
HIGH SCHOOL	WINNER - \$250.00; a seat at the award luncheon; a one year subscription to the <i>Trailblazer</i> . CLASSROOM - \$250.
JR. COLLEGE / COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY ..	WINNER - \$500.00; a seat at the award luncheon; a one year subscription to the <i>Trailblazer</i> . TEACHER - \$100.
ADULT / ADULT EDUCATION	WINNER - \$500.00; a seat at the award luncheon; a one year subscription to the <i>Trailblazer</i> .

RULES

RULES FOR HIGH SCHOOL, JUNIOR COLLEGE, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, ADULT, and ADULT EDUCATION CONTEST:

(Rules for Fourth Grade Contest can be found later in this document)

SUBJECT

Any person, place or event concerning Santa Clara County from its beginning to the recent past. Check www.californiapioneers.com (click on Essay Contest Winners on the left menu) or the California Room at the Martin Luther King Library, San Jose, for past topics.

APPLICANTS

Applicants who attend school must be enrolled in a Santa Clara County school. You do not have to be enrolled in a school for the Adult category. If you are an adult and not enrolled in school, you do not have to live in Santa Clara County.

CLASSROOM AWARD

Any monetary award given to the classroom (in the High School categories), must be used for the benefit of the classroom. It must be for the purpose of education in the area of local history, such as a history field trip, history software program, computer for history purposes, etc. The award may not be for the personal use of the teacher, nor to satisfy the needs of the school. In effect, the student and teacher earned the classroom award for the classroom.

TEACHER AWARD

Any monetary award given to a teacher (in the Junior College/College/University category) is for the teacher's benefit. This is an award for the assistance provided to the student author in editing and/or guidance.

CONTENTS - Each essay must be:

- Minimum 3000 words, Maximum-10,000 words (approximately 10-30 pages text)
- Double spaced.
- One inch margins.
- Original content.
- Typewritten.
- In electronic format such as WORD or PDF.

1. COVER SHEET on top (which will be removed by the Pioneers) which contains information the Pioneers needs in order to contact you:

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
Essay Contest

Category: [choose one: High School Entry; or Jr. College/College/University Entry; or Adult/Adult Education Entry]

Year

Title of Your Essay

[Lower left corner:]

Author's Name

Author's Address

Author's Phone Number

Author's Email

(Name of School, if any)

(If there is a Teacher Advisor, we need the name and email of that teacher)

2. TITLE PAGE which is just under cover sheet, which contains information you want the public to know, should your essay be selected as a winning essay and placed in the main public library in San Jose and on our website:

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
Essay Contest

Category: [choose one: High School Entry; or College/University Entry; or Adult/Adult Education Entry]

Year

Title of Your Essay

[Lower left corner:]

Author's Name

Author's Address (only if you want the public to know)

Author's Phone Number (only if you want the public to know)

Author's Email (only if you want the public to know)

(Name of School, if you want the public to know)

(If there is a Teacher Advisor, only the name of that teacher)

3. Table of Contents.

4. Text begins with a short introduction, preface, or summary.

5. Footnotes (if any), using the Turabian style. (*See* www.libs.uga.edu/ref/turabian.html)

6. Bibliography, in Turabian style.

7. List of Sources (if any) such as persons, books or other items consulted.

For submittal of essay rules, see "How to Submit Your Essay" below.

RULES FOR FOURTH GRADE:

(Rules for other Contest categories can be found above)

SUBJECT

A specific topic that is selected each year, just for that year. The topic for 2011-2012 is “The Importance of Water to the Early People of California.”

APPLICANTS

Applicants must be enrolled in the fourth grade in a school within Santa Clara County. Only one essay may be submitted per school / classroom. (If there is a 4-A and 4-B with separate teachers, there may be a submission from each teacher – two per school. If there is one fourth grade classroom in the school, there can only be one essay submitted per school.) All students can write an essay, but only one essay per teacher will be accepted. If the teacher or teacher’s aide or room-parent in fourth grade have more than one student prepare an essay (for instance if they have the entire class write an essay, or if there are five student volunteers who want to compete), the teacher must select only one essay to submit to the contest. The student must be the author, with the teacher merely serving as the advisor/monitor to make sure the essay meets the rules and format of the contest. Teachers, teacher’s aides, room-parents, parents, guardians or relatives cannot write, co-write or re-write essays. Each fourth grade student’s work must be judged against all other fourth grade students’ work in Santa Clara County. We do not want teachers, teacher’s aides, room-parents, parents, guardians or relatives helping to write essays that will then compete against fourth grade authors from other schools. Teaching children integrity and fair play is part of this contest.

STUDENT AWARD

The winner will receive \$100.00; a seat at the award luncheon, plus a seat for a parent or guardian; and a one year subscription to the *Trailblazer*.

CLASSROOM AWARD

The fourth grade classroom from which the winner came will receive a free field trip to the award-winning “Westward Ho! experience, presented by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County” at History San Jose, up to \$400 in value. History San Jose has guaranteed the fourth grade teacher, teacher’s aides, room parents, and all students in the fourth grade classroom will be given a spot in the next year’s field trip program, even if the field trip slots are filled up for the year (which they always are). The California Pioneers and History San Jose will add an extra field trip slot if necessary to accommodate the winning classroom. The author of the winning contest (now in fifth grade) will also attend the field trip so that the fourth graders will see who earned the free field trip for the school and so that the fourth graders will be inspired by their “local hero” young author. This will promote other children to want to write and learn about local history. For details of the program, go to

<http://www.historysanjose.org/school-programs/program-descriptions/>

and

http://www.historysanjose.org/pdf_docs/11_12HSJSchoolBrochure.pdf

The teacher should not sign up for the field trip by using the regular online registration. Special accommodation is made for the winning classroom, which needs to be arranged via email with History San Jose. The field trip must be experienced in the school year following the essay contest award. (The award is granted in the Spring, so the classroom would go on “Westward Ho!, presented by the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County” in the following Fall or Spring). If the fourth grade teacher is not teaching fourth grade in the same school in the following year, the award stays with the classroom.

CONTENTS - Each essay must be:

3 to 10 pages. No more, no less.

Double spaced.

One inch margins.

Original content.

Typewritten.

1. COVER SHEET on top (which will be removed by the Pioneers) which contains information the Pioneers needs in order to contact you. This information will only be seen by the small panel of Contest judges:

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
Essay Contest
Fourth Grade Entry
Year
Title of Your Essay

[Lower left corner:]

Author's Name
Author's Address
Author's Phone Number
Author's Email (or parent's email)
Name of School
Name and email of Teacher Advisor
Name and email of School Principal

2. TITLE PAGE which is just under cover sheet, which contains information you want the public to know, should your essay be selected as a winning essay and placed in the main public library in San Jose and on our website:

California Pioneers of Santa Clara County
Essay Contest
Fourth Grade Entry
Year
Title of Your Essay

[Lower left corner:]

Author's Name
Name of School (if you want it to be public knowledge)
Name of Teacher Advisor

3. Do not include a table of contents.

4. Text begins with a two or three sentence summary.

5. Include footnotes or endnotes (if you have any); the notes can be, but does not have to be in Turabian style.

(See www.libs.uga.edu/ref/turabian.html)

6. Include a bibliography or a list a list of sources such as persons, books or other items consulted (if any); the

bibliography can be, but does not have to be in Turabian style.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY:

When done writing your essay email an electronic attachment in Microsoft Word (or equivalent) format to:
Professor Rose Marie Beebe
rbeebe@scu.edu

If you do not have an electronic version, or you do not have access to email, or you have images in your essay that cannot be sent electronically, you can mail the essay in the US mail to:

Professor Rose Marie Beebe
Modern Languages & Literatures
Santa Clara University
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0300

If you send a paper copy because it cannot be emailed, each paper copy must be stapled (or affixed), so the essay does not come apart. All essays must be postmarked on or before April 15, 2012.

SCORING – Scoring by the essay judge committee of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County will be based on:

- Originality
- Overall interest
- Depth of research
- Writing skill

The California Pioneers reserve exclusive publication rights to all essays. All essays may be uploaded by the California Pioneers to their website. Usually, the winning essays are uploaded. None of the essays will be returned. The California Pioneers reserves the right to not award winners in certain categories if the essays submitted do not warrant winning status. The California Pioneers reserves the right to split award money among winners if there is a tie, or other unusual issue. Applicants who do not follow the rules of the contest will not be considered valid essay applicants. Winners in the previous three years are not eligible to compete.

Winners will receive their awards at the Pioneers Quarterly Luncheon in June. Winners will be given a complimentary lunch at the luncheon. One parent or guardian for the Fourth Grade winner will receive a complimentary lunch. Friends and relatives of the winners are welcome to join us for lunch, at their cost, to watch the winner receive their awards. Winners are encouraged to, and may, make a BRIEF presentation (limited to 3 minutes) to the Pioneers membership at that time. Winners are not required to make a presentation. Winners receive, at no cost, a one year subscription to the Pioneers “Trailblazer” newsletter.

2012 Selection Committee:

April Halberstadt - Chair and Reader
Mary Lou Lyon -- Reader
Professor Rose Marie Beebe -- Reader
Judge Paul Bernal -- Reader
Gayle Frank -- Reader
Melita Kelly -- Reader
David McKinney -- Reader

Readers will disqualify themselves from the reading of essays if there is a conflict of interest.

Questions? Contact Essay Committee Chair April Halberstadt at aprilhalb@gmail.com, or Paul Bernal at pbernal@scscourt.org. Or go to www.californiapioneers.com.