



# 2022-2023 AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST COVER SHEET

*(MUST be attached to each Essay)*



## “What is your American Dream?”

### Section 1 — to be filled out by student

*(Circle or Highlight One Grade)*

•Division I: 5th Grade

•Division II: 6th Grade

•Division III: 7th Grade

•Division IV: 8th Grade

School \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male  Female  Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(used only to contact the winners)*

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Local Lodge no later than December 15, 2022.

### Section 2 — to be filled out by Lodge Chairman

Chairman's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Lodge Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Select the top three essays from each division and send them to the District Americanism Chairman by January 31, 2023 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 Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Select the top three essays from each division and send them to the State Americanism Chairman by February 28, 2023 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

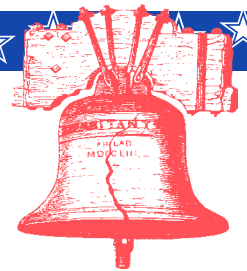
Chairman's Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Select the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners for your State and send the 1st place winner from each division to the Contest Administrator, Gwendolyn B. Parker, by March 31, 2023.*



# AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

*Sponsored by Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of  
The United States of America*



## THEME:

# “What is your American Dream?”

## RULES:

1. At the time of the contest, eligible participants must be Students enrolled in one of these four divisions: **I**—5th grade; **II**—6th grade; **III**—7th grade; or **IV**—8th grade.
2. Essay length is not to exceed 300 words.
3. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink. Also, Essay must be submitted as written (or typed) by the entrant.
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:

Plaques will be awarded by Grand Lodge for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place for national winning essays in Divisions I, II, III, and IV. Monetary awards will be disbursed for each grade level for 1st Place—\$1,000; 2nd Place—\$500; and 3rd Place—\$250. Winners will be announced at the Grand Lodge Session in Minneapolis, MN, July 2-5, 2023.

## ENTRY DATE:

Essay should be submitted to local Elks Lodge on/before December 15, 2022.

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

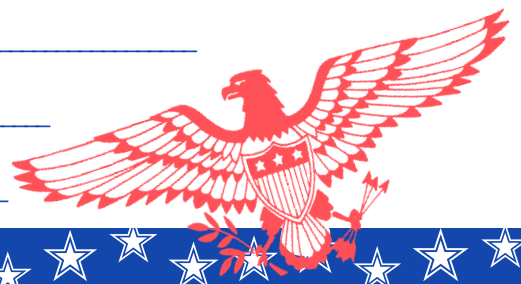
Sponsoring Elks Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_





2022-2023

## AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

### Essay Theme: *“What is your American Dream?”*

1. Eligible participants must be a student enrolled in the fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth grade during the normal 2022-23 school year, preceding June 30, 2023. **Deadline: Must be submitted to Local Lodge by December 15, 2022.**
2. Essay length is not to exceed 300 words.
3. Essay must be typed or legibly printed in ink. Also, Essay must be submitted as written (or typed) by the entrant.
4. Essay must be submitted for judging to the Elks Lodge administering the contest at his or her school or, if unknown, to the Lodge nearest to the home address of the 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 cover sheet.)
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 now four separate divisions for judging essays:

- **Division I**—5th grade; • **Division II**—6th grade • **Division III**—7th grade; & • **Division IV**—8th grade

#### **PROCEDURES FOR LODGE AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN**

Select from submitted entries the top three essays from each division and send the twelve essays to the District Americanism Chairman by Jan. 31, 2023, or the date established by the State Association.

#### **PROCEDURES FOR DISTRICT AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN**

Select the top three essays in each division from all entries submitted by Local Lodges and send the twelve essays to the State Americanism Chairman by Feb. 28, 2023, or the date established by the State Association.

#### **PROCEDURES FOR STATE AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN**

Select the first-, second- and third-place winners for the state from entries submitted by the District Chairman. In addition, State Chairman forwards the first-place winners from each division to the Grand Lodge Essay Contest Administrator. (*Must be postmarked by March 31, 2023.*)

**SEND TO:** *Essay Contest Administrator* Gwendolyn B. Parker, Grand Lodge Fraternal Committee,  
PO Box 134, Cullman, AL 35056-0134.

Plaques and monetary awards for first-, second-, and third-place winning essays in Divisions I, II, III, and IV, will be available for pickup at the Fraternal Committee's Booth at the end of the Grand Lodge Session on July 5, 2023.