



2019 FSYP Essay Contest Entry Form



Sponsored by McGrath Real Estate Services

Guidelines

2019 Middle School Topic:

Describe what you can see from your window in your current or former residence. How does it affect your sense of self as a Foreign Service youth?

2019 High School Topic:

Using examples from your own experience, describe how growing up as a Foreign Service youth has influenced your perspective on life and the world.

Deadline: Sunday, March 31, 2019

Prizes: Middle School Category: First place: \$500 Second place: \$300 Third place: \$150
High School Category: First place: \$800 Second place: \$500 Third place: \$300

All winners will be honored at the Youth Awards Ceremony held in June 2019.

Eligibility & Entry Fee:

- All US Foreign Service high school and middle school students are eligible to participate, except those whose parents are FSYP Directors or employees. For the purposes of the contest, the term Foreign Service youth applies to dependents of U.S. citizens who are employed by U.S. foreign affairs agencies, eligible for overseas assignment and report to Chief of Mission when at Post. For FSYP membership guidelines go to: www.fsyf.org/Benefits
- Participants must be members of the Foreign Service Youth Foundation by the **March 31, 2019** deadline or must pay an entry fee of \$20. Checks should be made payable to FSYP. To join FSYP, go to: www.fsyf.org

Use of Essay:

- Essays will become the property of FSYP and/or McGrath. Essays may be posted to FSYP, McGrath or State Department websites or appear in FSYP publications or publicity. Winners' names will appear in related newsletters, publicity and announcements.

Essay Specifications:

- Written in English with a word count not exceeding 1,000 words, excluding name, title and list of sources.
- Include author's name, a title, page numbers and a list of source materials, if applicable.
- Be double-spaced, with 12-point Times New Roman font (or equivalent), and with one inch margin on all sides.
- Include a completed and signed entry form with essay.

Judging Criteria:

- **Subject matter:** Relevance to the proposed topic; original or arresting subject, quality of insight and thought; unity of theme; imaginative imagery and concrete detail.
- **Organization:** Arrangement of material; clarity of description or argument; management of transitions.
- **Grammar and style:** Command of the written language
- **Presentation:** Did you follow the contest rules about length, double spacing, font size etc? Did you cite your source materials if applicable?

Submissions:

- Entry forms and essays should be submitted by attaching to an email to the following address: fsyf@fsyf.org
- Include in the e-mail subject line the Contest Name and Entrant's Name.

About the Sponsor: Cash prizes are made possible by McGrath Real Estate Services, a property management firm founded and owned by a Foreign Service family. McGrath employees understand the special needs of homeowners who are transferred abroad and want to feel good about their real estate choice. For more than 30 years, McGrath has successfully represented Foreign Service Officers, World Bank executives and educated investors in every aspect of residential property management.
www.McGrathRealEstate.com



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Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Email: _____ Current Post: _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s): _____

Agency of Employment: _____ Official USG Email: _____

Parent Personal Email: _____

My family is a member of the Foreign Service Youth Foundation. Yes No

If you answered "No" above, please choose one of the following responses:

My family is not yet a member but we have completed the membership application and submitted payment.

No, my family is not a member of FSYP. We do not wish to join at this time. The \$20 entry fee has been paid online.

I am entering (check one): Middle School Essay Contest High School Essay Contest

Title of Essay: _____

Word Count: _____

Student's Honor Statement:

This essay represents my own work. I am eligible to participate in the FSYP Essay Contest. I understand that my essay will become the property of FSYP to use at its discretion, that it will not be returned to me, and that the judges' decisions are final.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(An electronic S-signature has an "s" inserted between forward slash marks, (Example: /s/ John Doe), and will be accepted with this form.)

Parent Permission:

By signing this, I agree to allow McGrath Real Estate Services and the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYP), to use and/or publish the essay that I have submitted to the FSYP Essay Contest, and to use my child's name to identify the author of the essay. I release McGrath Real Estate Services and FSYP from any claims that occur in connection with the use of the original essay. I have read the foregoing and fully understand the contents thereof.

Name of Parent or Guardian (printed): _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____ Date: _____

(An electronic S-signature has an "s" inserted between forward slash marks, (Example: /s/ John Doe), and will be accepted with this form.)