



2019 ASBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE STUDENT ESSAY/SPEAKING CONTEST

For Additional Information:

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PURPOSE

The purpose for this contest is two-fold. First, it is designed to give 11th and 12th grade Arkansas students an opportunity to express creative ideas and concepts, conduct research, think critically, practice public speaking skills and subsequently receive recognition for doing so. Secondly, it is an opportunity for our conference attendees (approximately 600+ school board members and administrators) to see and hear examples of the quality of young men and women the schools within our state are producing.

RULES & GUIDELINES – Please print and distribute as needed

The Arkansas School Boards Association is holding a personal essay/speaking contest where the winner(s) will have an opportunity to present before an audience of more than 600 school board members and administrators at the 2019 ASBA Annual Conference held December 11-13 at the Marriott Hotel and Statehouse Convention Center in downtown Little Rock.

Since it was such a hit at the 2018 conference, we decided to repeat it again for a second year. Once again we hope that this contest will bring out the very best in students' writing and speaking efforts and allow our attendees to witness examples of the bright, thoughtful, and accomplished students from around our State.

Specific Rules and Guidelines begin on page 3.

TOPIC

Is TRUST our most valuable currency? Why or why not?

RECOGNITION

The contest offers the following incentives:

1 st Place:	\$1000 cash prize
2 nd Place:	\$ 750 cash prize
3 rd Place:	\$ 500 cash prize
Honorable Mention:	\$ 250



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- ☆ The top three winners are required to attend the 2019 ASBA Annual Conference, be recognized and present their essay as a speech to the general session audience. The location for the conference is:

Little Rock Marriott Hotel Grand Ballroom
3 Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock, AR 72201

- ☆ The student and two guests will receive complimentary tickets for one meal at the conference.
- ☆ Winners will be recognized on the ASBA website.
- ☆ Winners will permit their presentations to be videoed.
- ☆ The winning students and their work will be recognized in an issue of the ASBA quarterly publication, *Report Card*.

DATES & TIMES

Specific times for presentations during the conference will be announced in late October

1st Place Presentation: Thursday, December 12, 2019

2nd Place Presentation: Friday, December 13, 2019

3rd Place Presentation: Friday, December 13, 2019

SELECTION AND PREPARATION OF CONTESTANTS

Only one student per ASBA member high school may submit a contest application. Each school may select their one applicant by whatever method it considers most appropriate.

ENTERING THE CONTEST & REGISTRATION DEADLINE

This contest is open now until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 to all 2019-2020 school year juniors and seniors who are enrolled in school districts/organizations that are current members of the Arkansas School Boards Association. The application process must be completed in its entirety **on-line no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 23, 2019. Receipt of applications will be time-stamped by ASBA and confirmation of acceptance sent to applicant within three business days of receipt.**

Applicants must submit ALL of the following by the date shown above to be part of the contest:

- ☆ An application form (application at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019StudentVoices>)
- ☆ A 600-750 word personal essay (four-five minutes of speaking)
- ☆ A video of the essay presented as a speech
- ☆ A completed and signed Parental Release Form (see page 6 of this document)



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HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PRESENTATION TO ASBA

All of the required materials listed in the section above (excluding the application, which is to be submitted using the Survey Monkey link shown above) shall be emailed to asbastudentvoices@gmail.com no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 23, 2019. The video portion of the submission must be compressed and in a transferable quality. Supported file formats are .mp4, .mov, .mpg, or .avi. Participants may also upload their video to YouTube and attach the link to their submission email. Remember that partial submissions will not be considered for participation in the contest so be sure to include all four items with the email to ASBA.

RULES AND GUIDELINES

- ☆ All entrants must be classified as a high school junior or senior during the 2019-2020 school year.
- ☆ The school where they are enrolled must be a member of the Arkansas School Boards Association.
- ☆ By entering, you are agreeing to present your essay/speech at the 2019 ASBA Annual Conference if chosen as a winner. This is required to receive any cash award.
- ☆ Although this is meant to be a personal, rather than an academic essay, attention should be given to content, organization, style, and correctness.
- ☆ Essays/presentation must be original. However, consultation with teachers, or other resources is encouraged. Plagiarism is not acceptable.
- ☆ Credit must clearly be given to any source where borrowed material is directly used or quoted.
- ☆ Essays should be approximately 600-750 words in length (appropriate for four-five minutes of speaking).
- ☆ A video of the presentation in its entirety must be submitted with this application.
- ☆ Presentations should be memorized but students may use 3x5 note cards as references during their presentations. ***Presentations may not be read in the entirety from a manuscript or notes.***
- ☆ Presentations must be approximately **four to five minutes** in duration. **Presentations longer than five minutes or shorter than four minutes will be disqualified.**

JUDGING

The winners will be chosen by a panel of judges selected by the Arkansas School Boards Association. Criteria for judging the essays and the presentations include the quality of the written essay, both in form and content, and student delivery qualities as demonstrated in the video. Accuracy of facts, demonstrated mastery of the topic, effective communication of concepts, thoughts, and ideas, proper use of voice and articulation, and originality all are important. A sample of the judging worksheet is shown below. The decisions of the judges are final.

(Sample of Judges Worksheet follows this page.)



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Arkansas School Boards Association Contest Judging Worksheet

Student: _____ School: _____

Essay/Speech Title: _____

CRITERIA

NOTES

Essay Qualities (_____/30 points):

No plagiarism in evidence

Well-organized information

Accuracy of material

Informative

Original & creative thinking

Resources credited appropriately

Speech Presentation (Video) (_____/35 points):

Captures attention of audience

Organizes ideas (& presents a specific point of view)

Introduces and uses research and references effectively effectively

Interprets and understands subject

Student Delivery Qualities (_____/35 points):

Shows poise, confidence, and passion

Speaks fluently and with clarity



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Uses satisfactory pronunciation

Has control of filters (“ums”, “you knows”, like”)

Effectively uses voice quality and volume

Delivery is smooth and natural

Develops rapport with audience

Uses body movements appropriately (gestures, eye contact, facial expressions, posture)

Observed Time Limit	Yes	No
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Time Used: _____

Total Points Awarded: _____ / 100 points

Judge's Name: _____

Additional Comments:



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Parent/Legal Guardian Media Recording Release for Students

I, _____, Parent/Legal Guardian of _____
(student's name), hereby grant permission to the Arkansas School Boards Association (ASBA) to use the above-named student's video, photo, and likeness for promotional purposes by ASBA in all manners, including, but not limited to: news releases, photographs, video, audio, website, and other electronic or printed published media. I agree that these videos, photos and/or voice recordings may be used for a variety of purposes without further notifying me. I understand ASBA will not use any of the student's personally identifying information, except for the student's first name, the school that he/she attends, and the student's grade, without first obtaining my express permission. ASBA has my permission for this use until I submit written revocation of my permission to the ASBA Office at 523 S. Ringo St, Little Rock, AR 72201, arsba@arsba.org (or you may call 501-372-1415). I understand the ASBA does not have control over a third party who retrieves my student's information published by the ASBA and uses it without my permission. I agree to hold the ASBA harmless for such use of my student's information.

Parent/Legal Guardian Name

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date