



2019/2020 William Adler Historical Writing Contest

Sponsored by:

The Oro Valley Historical Preservation Commission

The contest will be open November 1, 2019 through February 14, 2020

Eligibility Requirements

All students in the fourth grade (including charter, public, private or home schooled), who reside in the Amphitheater School District boundaries, are eligible to participate in the writing contest. Students who have family members that serve on the Oro Valley Historic Preservation Commission are ineligible to participate.

Awards

Every contestant will receive a certificate of participation. Awards will be Oro Valley gift cards valued at \$100 (first place), \$75 (second place) and \$50 (third place). The top three winners will be presented with their awards and certificates at an Oro Valley Town Council Meeting.

The Essay

The topics for the William Adler Historical writing contest is a time in history. Your essay must be related to one of the 2019/20 Essay topics provided. There are many resources available on the internet as well as places such as local libraries, museums and cultural sites available to help guide you in your writing. By using primary and secondary resources, successful essays will reflect a student's understanding of the material and demonstrate original thinking.

Contest Regulations

All essays must comply with the following contest rules before submission.

- No literary form other than an expository essay will be accepted.
- Each essay must reflect the contestant's own research, writing and original thinking.
- All sources must be properly cited.
- Only one (1) essay may be submitted by each contestant.
- Each contestant must complete and attach a student entry form.
- Each essay will be a maximum of 750 words in length.
- Entries may be typed or neatly written.
- The title of the essay MUST appear on the top of all pages of the essay. The author's name should only appear on the first page of the essay. Do not include the author's name on additional pages of the essay.
- Send a copy to: Lynanne Dellerman
Cultural Services Manager
Town of Oro Valley
10555 N. La Cañada
Oro Valley, AZ 85737
- If you wish to send your essay via e-mail, send it to ldellerman@orovalleyaz.gov
- Entries must be postmarked on or before the contest due date of February 14, 2020.
- Essays will NOT be returned to the author but will become the property of the Oro Valley Historic Preservation Commission. The Commission may reprint the essays in publications, online or use them at workshops. Appropriate citations will be given to the writers.

Judging

Oro Valley Historic Preservation Commission Members will judge the essays using the following criteria:

I. Historical Accuracy (1-5 pts.)

Is it historically accurate?

II. Writing (1-5 pts.)

Does the essay contain correct grammar, spelling and punctuation? Is the essay neat?

III. Independent Thinking (1-5 pts.)

Does the essay show creativity? Are the ideas unique?

IV. Research (1-5 pts.)

Does the essay document use of multiple resources, such as old newspaper articles, books and interviews?

Each category will be rated 1 through 5, with 5 as the highest score. The sum of the categories will be the essay's final score.



William Adler

Historical Writing Contest 2019 / 2020

Essay Topics

Please pick one question for your essay.

- 1) Oro Valley is known for its abundant wildlife. How have wildlife populations changed since the Hohokam culture inhabited southern Arizona (200 BC – 1450 AD). What factors have contributed to these changes?
- 2) Who is Francisco Romero? Where did he settle and what challenges did he and his family encounter? Consider food, clothing, shelter, water, and threats to their safety.
- 3) Describe the shape of the Hohokam ball court, its probable uses and how you think the game(s) may have been played. What activities, real or fictional, use a similar type of ball field? Describe an activity you would do in a similar area.

Resource One: Every Second Saturday, Oct – April, at Steam Pump Ranch, 10901 N Oracle Rd, Allen Denoyer from Archaeology Southwest will be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate many aspects of pre-historic life as part of Archaeology Southwest's "Hands on Archaeology." Please come visit him to learn more.

There are also many archaeology sites around Tucson. Romero Ruin located in Catalina State Park has interpretive signage to help you learn about the activities of the prehistoric and early settlers of the area.

Resource Two: Also on Second Saturdays, Oct – April, at Steam Pump Ranch, the Oro Valley Historical Society will be on hand to give tours and provide the history of past residents of the Ranch including George Pusch and his family and Hank Leiber.



William Adler Historical Writing Contest
Student Entry Form

Sponsored by:

The Oro Valley Historic Preservation Commission

Please print this form out and return it with your essay.

First and Last Name: _____

Grade: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone Number: () _____

Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

By signing, you agree that the Commission may reprint, publish online or use the essay at workshops.

THIS ENTRY FORM MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR WRITING
The contest will be open from November 1, 2019 to February 14, 2020

Mail to: Lynanne Dellerman
Cultural Services Manager
Town of Oro Valley
10555 N. La Cañada Dr.
Oro Valley, AZ 85737

Or Email to: ldellerman@orovalleyaz.gov