

Sons of American Revolution George S. & Stella Knight Essay Contest

The Washingtonburg Chapter (represents Cumberland and Perry Counties) of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all high school students (9th through 12th grades) interested in the American Revolution to participate in the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. The contest is open to all US citizen and legal resident students attending home schools, public, parochial, or private high schools in that same grade range.

To participate, each student (no group essays) must submit an original 800- to 1,200-word essay based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution.

Essay Requirements:

- Judging Criteria:
 - Each student’s essay will be judged on the following: historical accuracy, clarity, organization, spelling/grammar, and documentation.
- Essays must include the following parts:
 - Application Page (attached; feel free to make copies)
 - Complete the top portion, and sign and date it
 - Staple it to the top of the essay in this order
 - Title Page
 - Title of essay
 - Student’s name, grade, address, phone number, and email
 - Student’s high school name, address, and phone number
 - How the student learned of the contest
 - Essay Pages
 - No student information on essay pages
 - Title of essay on first page of essay
 - Double-spaced, 12-point, Times New Roman font
 - 8 ½” x 11” white paper with 1” margins on all sides
 - Pages numbered sequentially starting with “1”
 - No graphics, images, clip art, covers, or bindings permitted
 - Bibliography/Works Cited Page
 - Essay citations and bibliography references must be in accordance with a standard citation system (MLA, Chicago, or MHRA) – specify the system used
 - No student information in bibliography/works cited page
 - Minimum of 5 sources, 3 must be published works (encyclopedia and internet sources are acceptable but do not count toward 3 published works)
 - Biography Page

- Include academic awards and achievements, school activities, community activities, and plans after high school
 - One page maximum
- Washingtonburg SAR Chapter Awards (Cumberland and Perry County Students)
 - 1st -- \$100
 - 2nd -- \$75
 - 3rd -- \$50
 - Award winners and their families will be invited to an awards luncheon in the spring of 2025, specific date and location to be determined.
 - The 1st place winner's essay will advance to the state round.
- Pennsylvania SAR Awards
 - 1st -- \$200
 - 2nd -- \$200
 - 3rd -- \$100
 - The 1st place winner's essay will advance to the national round.
- National SAR Awards
 - 1st -- \$6,000 + \$1,500 travel stipend for trip to Congress
 - 2nd -- \$3,000
 - 3rd -- \$2,000
 - 4th -- \$500
 - 5th -- \$500
- Winning entries may be published on SAR websites and in the SAR magazine.
- Entries remain property of National Society of the Sons of American Revolution and may not be entered in other contests.
- Entries must be postmarked by November 11, 2024.

*Email questions to Ray Mowery, Washingtonburg SAR Chapter Education Coordinator:
 raymondmowery@hotmail.com

Mail all completed documents in one envelope to the address below. Teachers may mail multiple entries in one envelope.

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Ray Mowery

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