

# **Schuyler County Republican Committee**

## **2024 High School Graduate Constitutional Essay Contest**

### **Contest Rules and Entry Form**

#### Rules:

- This contest is open to any 2024 High School Graduate (including home-schooled students) legally residing in Schuyler County, NY who will be continuing their education or entering military service.
- The graduate with the winning submission will be awarded \$1,500. The award winner will be selected based upon an essay on one of the following topics:
  1. Discuss the interaction between the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment and the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution. Does the 14<sup>th</sup> override the 10<sup>th</sup>?
  2. Does a constitutional right to privacy exist? If so, from where does it arise?
  3. Do Second Amendment rights apply to persons residing in the United States in contravention to US immigration law? Explain the basis for your position.
- Essays must be between 900 and 1100 words in length.
- Essays will be judged using the following criteria and weighting:
  1. 50% for correct and well-presented logical argument (no logical fallacies, correct references to sources, no dependence on “feelings” or appeals to class/intersectionality)
  2. 20% for style and readability
  3. 20% for grammar, syntax and correct essay structure
  4. 10% for originality of thought and concept
- Entries must be submitted via email to [GOPEvents@zoho.com](mailto:GOPEvents@zoho.com) by 12:00 AM on May 27, 2024
- Email submissions must contain two attachments:
  1. The entry form filled out with all requested information
  2. A separate attachment containing the essay in PDF or DOCX (Microsoft Word) format
- Judging will be blind. Judges will use a random number attached to the document to identify each essay and all personally identifying information will be redacted.
- To receive the award, the winning essayist must provide proof of high-school graduation and intent to continue further studies or career development. Such proof will consist of a letter of acceptance or proof of registration in an institute of higher education, a letter of acceptance into a technical training or apprenticeship program, or a military induction or enlistment letter. If they are unable to provide this proof, the next ranking essayist who can provide the required proof will receive the award.
- The winner will be notified after the judging has been completed prior to graduation.
- The winner will be announced by the Schuyler County Republican Committee.
- Winning essayists agree that the essay becomes co-property of the Schuyler County Republican Committee, which may publish it (or portions of it) in any form it chooses, so long as it properly attributes the author and does not make material changes to the essay.

**Schuyler County Republican Committee**  
**2024 High School Graduate Constitutional Essay**  
**Contest**  
**Entry Form**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Email Address:**

**Telephone Number:**

**School District Attended, or where Residence is Located, if Home-Schooled:**

**Date of Graduation:**

**Type of Continuing Education:**

**Name of Entity Providing Continuing Education:**

**(Please note that you must be prepared to provide proof of continuing education as directed in the attached rules before you will receive your award)**

**Essay Topic:**

**Please fill and save this entry form, then attach it and your essay (in PDF or Microsoft Word (DOCX) format) to an email, and send it to [GOPevents@zoho.com](mailto:GOPevents@zoho.com). Please note that all submissions must be received by 12:00 AM on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Please address any questions about this contest to the same email address.**