

RESPECT LIFE OFFICE ✦ 4704 Harlan Street Suite 550 ✦ Denver, CO 80212

ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

School address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email your essay and this form to: [LGrandon@ccdenver.org](mailto:LGrandon@ccdenver.org) as indicated in the following pages.

**FIRM DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS November 11, 2021 NO EXCEPTIONS**



Please continue reading for Essay contest informational forms.

## PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Denver strive to promote the ability of middle school students as well as high school students to articulate their pro-life views with their friends, relatives, associates and neighbors.

### 2022 CONTEST RULES

1. All middle school and high school students are eligible to compete. In the case of advanced students or home education, the school must recognize the student as working in those grade levels.
2. Contestants are to research, write, and provide an original prolife essay on this year's theme, **"Honoring Courageous Mothers."** No copyrighted essays may be used in this contest. No parent is to author or assist.
3. Content matter is to be related to humanity. Contestants should use up-to-date information.
4. The essay:
  - a. High School: Must be 800-1100 words in length  
Middle School: not to exceed two (2) double-spaced 8 ½ x 11 sheets.
  - b. Should have a cover sheet with the contestant's name, grade, level, name of school, name of parents or guardians, address and phone number
  - c. Should NOT have the student's name on any pages of the actual essay
  - d. Should have all pages numbered
  - e. Should follow MLA format for documenting researched information and facts
  - f. Should give attention to organization, ideas, sentences, word choice, and mechanics
  - g. Should consist of words only. Pictures, icons, graphs or diagrams may not be included.
  - h. Quotes to support a position or statement are appropriate, but they should not dominate the essay and should be appropriately cited.
5. Essays will be judged on persuasiveness, accuracy and creativity.
6. The decision of the Respect Life office concerning the application of these rules will be final. The Respect Life Office's decision concerning the winners will be final.
7. Essays must be received by November 11, 2021. No exceptions. Send an electronic copy to: [LGrandon@ccdenvver.org](mailto:LGrandon@ccdenvver.org) at the Respect Life Office.
8. Finalists will be contacted before the first week of December 2021. Finalists will be requested to present their essay in front of a committee on a chosen date in December – for determination on which two students will present their essay publicly at the Celebrate Life Rally – 1 o'clock P.M. on January 15, 2022 at our Colorado State Capitol.
9. Once the contest is completed, the Archdiocese of Denver reserves the right to post essays or portions of submitted essays on the Archdiocesan website for public viewing. Essays will not be used for profit. (please see following page for MLA formatting)

## General Guidelines for MLA Format

- Type your paper on a computer
- Double-space the text, using a legible font such as Times New Roman
- Leave only one space after periods or other punctuation marks
- Set the margins of the document to 1 inch on all sides. Indent the first line of a paragraph one half inch (five spaces or press tab once) from the left margin
- Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively in the upper right-hand corner, one half inch from the top and flush with the right margin
- Use either italics or underlining throughout your essay for the titles of longer works, and only when absolutely necessary, providing emphasis
- If you have any endnotes, include them on a separate page before your Works Cited page
- Formatting the First Page of Your Paper:
  - In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, list your name, the title, and the date. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text.
  - Double space again and center the title. Don't underline your title or put it in quotation marks, write the title in Title Case, not in all capital letters
  - Use quotation marks and underlining or italics when referring to other works in your title, just as you would in your text.
  - Double space between the title and the first line of the text.
- Create a header in the upper right-hand corner that includes your last name, followed by a space with a page number; number all pages consecutively with Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3...) one half inch from the top and flush with the right margin.

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>