



JACL
Arizona

Student Essay Challenge

ESSAY CHALLENGE: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Announcing the First Annual Student Essay Challenge of the Japanese American Citizens League - Arizona (JACL-AZ) Chapter!

ELIGIBILITY

This is a new and exciting opportunity for high school students in Arizona AND affiliated with the following organizations:

- JACL-AZ Chapter
- Arizona Buddhist Temple
- Former Phoenix Japanese Free Methodist Church
- Any family members of the above organizations are eligible.

ESSAY TOPIC - WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN AMERICAN?

Visit the Norman Mineta Legacy Project at <http://minetalegacyproject.com> to learn about the life of the distinguished career of Norman Mineta who became the first Asian American mayor of a major city (San Jose, CA), a U.S Congressman, and the first Asian American cabinet member, serving two Presidents, a Democrat and Republican. How does his story inspire you, encourage you to reflect on your JA heritage, and think about what it means to be an American.

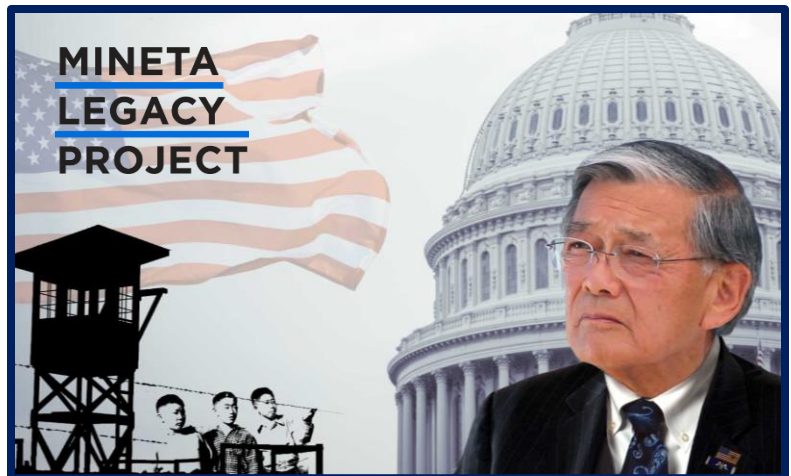
CASH PRIZES AWARDED!

- First Prize: \$500
- Second Prize: \$300
- Third Prize: \$100

REQUIREMENTS

The essay must meet the following specs:

- 1,000 to 1,200 words
- Typed, double-spaced
- 12 pt. font size
- Bibliography
- Cover sheet with your name, address, phone number, email address, school, grade level and teacher's name.



For more details, visit jaclaz.org.



JACL Student Essay Challenge

Arizona

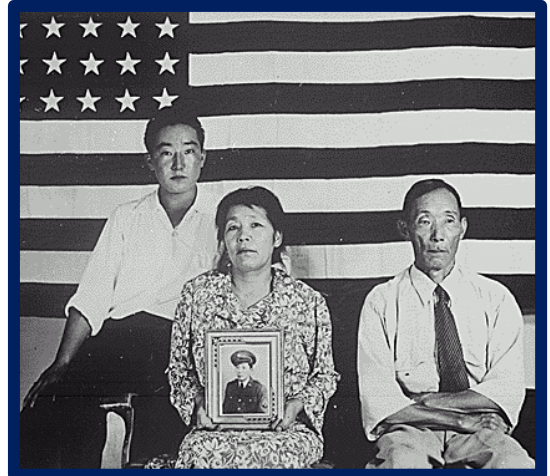
ESSAY CHALLENGE: STUDENTS GRADES 4-8

Announcing the First Annual Student Essay Challenge of the Japanese American Citizens League - Arizona (JACL-AZ) Chapter!

ELIGIBILITY

This is a new and exciting opportunity for **students in the 4th through 8th grade** in Arizona AND affiliated with the following organizations:

- JACL-AZ Chapter
- Arizona Buddhist Temple
- Former Phoenix Japanese Free Methodist Church
- Any family members of the above organizations are eligible.



ESSAY TOPIC - MY FAMILY OR MY HERO

Share a story about your family history or the heroes in your life! Share what you have learned about your heritage OR the legacy of Japanese Americans.

CASH PRIZES AWARDED! *(one winner per grade level)*

- Grades 4-6: \$100
- Grades 7-8: \$150

REQUIREMENTS

The essay must meet the following specs:

- 500 to 700 words
- Typed, double-spaced
- 12 pt. font size
- Bibliography
- Cover sheet with your name, address, phone number, email address, school, grade level and teacher's name.



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ESSAY CHALLENGE: COVER SHEET

Thank you for participating in the First Annual Student Essay Challenge of the Japanese American Citizens League - Arizona (JACL-AZ) Chapter!

Please complete the information below and submit it with your final essay to jaclaz.essay@gmail.com no later than October 1, 2021.

FIRST & LAST NAME (<i>Include parent/guardian name for grades 4-8</i>)	
MAILING ADDRESS	
PHONE NUMBER	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
SCHOOL (<i>Home schooled students are eligible to participate</i>)	
GRADE LEVEL	
TEACHER'S NAME	
RUBRIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Check this box to confirm that have reviewed the rubic for your grade level.</i>
SIGNATURE (<i>Parent/guardian sign for students grades 4-8</i>)	

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JACL Student Essay Challenge

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MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT

To have students learn about their ancestry, to raise awareness of their heritage, and how the Japanese American Citizens League impacts their lives.

GOALS

- Essay Challenge will provide students with an exciting opportunity to develop research and writing skills as they learn about their family history. They will enjoy the recognition from JACL AZ Chapter for their efforts and competitive spirit.
- Students and their families will experience the benefits of this JACL AZ Chapter activity. It will be an investment in their future.
- Essay Challenge will become an annual event.
- The Essay Challenge may provide students with the possibility of earning extra credit if presented to their respective teachers.

For more details, visit jaclaz.org.



JACL Student Essay Challenge

Arizona

Student Essay Challenge: Rubric - High School

ESSAY TITLE:				
TRACKING #:			GRADE:	
<i>Four categories to judge: Organization, Mechanics, Reflection, Life lesson. 1-4 points per category.</i>				
	4 - Distinguished	3 - Proficient	2 - Emerging	1 - Needs Improvement
ORGANIZATION				
Introduction: Was it strong & inviting?				
Flow of Information: Smooth transitions				
Easy to follow/understand				
Close: Did it tell a good story?				
MECHANICS				
Appropriate use of English language.				
Spelling / Grammar. Effective word pictures.				
REFLECTION				
Did it captivate the reader?				
Emotional Quality: Did it bring history to life?				
Did it leave a lasting impression?				
LIFE LESSONS				
What <i>three</i> life lessons did you learn?				
TOTAL				
GRAND TOTAL				

For more details, visit jaclaz.org.



JACL Student Essay Challenge

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Student Essay Challenge: Rubric – Grades 4-6

ESSAY TITLE:				
TRACKING #:			GRADE:	
<i>Four categories to judge: Organization, Mechanics, Reflection, Life lesson. 1-4 points per category.</i>				
	4 - Distinguished	3 - Proficient	2 - Emerging	1 - Needs Improvement
ORGANIZATION				
Introduction: Was it strong & inviting?				
Flow of Information: Smooth transitions				
Easy to follow/understand				
Close: Did it tell a good story?				
MECHANICS				
Appropriate use of English language.				
Spelling / Grammar. Effective word pictures.				
REFLECTION				
Did it captivate the reader?				
Emotional Quality: Did it bring history to life?				
Did it leave a lasting impression?				
LIFE LESSONS				
What <u>one</u> life lesson did you learn?				
TOTAL				
GRAND TOTAL				

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JACL Student Essay Challenge

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Student Essay Challenge: Rubric – Grades 7-8

ESSAY TITLE:				
TRACKING #:			GRADE:	
<i>Four categories to judge: Organization, Mechanics, Reflection, Life lesson. 1-4 points per category.</i>				
	4 - Distinguished	3 - Proficient	2 - Emerging	1 - Needs Improvement
ORGANIZATION				
Introduction: Was it strong & inviting?				
Flow of Information: Smooth transitions				
Easy to follow/understand				
Close: Did it tell a good story?				
MECHANICS				
Appropriate use of English language.				
Spelling / Grammar. Effective word pictures.				
REFLECTION				
Did it captivate the reader?				
Emotional Quality: Did it bring history to life?				
Did it leave a lasting impression?				
LIFE LESSONS				
What <u>one</u> life lesson did you learn?				
TOTAL				
GRAND TOTAL				

For more details, visit jaclaz.org.