



## ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION FORM

The John Walsh Chapter of the Irish American Cultural Institute (IACI) is pleased to announce their sponsorship of a new essay contest for high school students aged 13 to 17 years old. In continuing our chapter's mission to preserve, interpret and promote Irish and Irish American cultures, the goal of the contest is to provide a forum for younger generation Irish-Americans to dynamically engage with their heritage while inspiring pride in their cultural legacy. The children and grand-children of members of local area Irish organizations (see #1) are cordially invited to submit entries according to the guidelines listed below and on page 2.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible for the contest, an applicant must fulfill the following criteria:

1. Be a child or grand-child of an *active member* of any of the following:
  - John Walsh Chapter of the Irish American Cultural Institute
  - Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh (Belmar and Old Bridge)
  - Women of Irish Heritage of the Jersey Shore
  - Friendly Sons of St. Patrick (Jersey Shore)
  - Ancient Order of Hibernians (Division 32 Belmar and Division 16 Freehold)
2. Be a high school student aged 13 to 17 years old
3. Be a resident of the Monmouth or Ocean Counties

### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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

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

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

### Name / relationship of affiliated family member and organization name:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization Affiliation (see #1): \_\_\_\_\_

## ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES

**2019 TOPIC:** What being an Irish American means to me in the 21st century

**PRIZES:** Three prizes will be awarded. The winner of the First Place essay will receive \$300. Two recipients of Honorable Mention essays will receive \$100 each.

**FORMAT:** Typed, 400 to 500 words, double-spaced, one-inch margins, Times New Roman 12 font.

**DEADLINE:** Friday, April 26, 2019, 11 p.m. EST. Late submittals will not be considered.

**SUBMISSIONS:** Applicant must submit his/her essay along with a scanned and completed **Essay Contest Application Form** (see page 1) to Maureen Brady at [mdb571@nyu.edu](mailto:mdb571@nyu.edu) by the stated deadline. Both documents must be submitted together for the submission to be considered valid. One entry per applicant. All entries become the property of the sponsor and will not be returned.

**ADJUDICATION:** Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of IACI judges. The judges will not be provided with any identifying information regarding the names of the applicants or their affiliations and will independently score each essay based upon a common standard of rating.

The following elements will be evaluated for each essay:

- Adherence to topic
- Writing style (grammar/language)
- Originality
- Cohesiveness

**CONTEST RESULTS:** The winners will be notified by email on Monday, June 3, 2019.

**PRESENTATIONS:** One **First Place** and two **Honorable Mention** prizes will be presented at the IACI monthly chapter meeting to be held on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, 815 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belmar (upstairs). The First Place recipient will be invited to read their winning essay at the meeting. Please be advised that the press will be invited to attend the event and pictures will be taken.

**FORMS:** Additional forms are available on the chapter's website located at [www.iacijerseyshore.com](http://www.iacijerseyshore.com).

**QUESTIONS:** If there are any questions, contact Maureen Brady at [mdb571@nyu.edu](mailto:mdb571@nyu.edu).

**FUNDING:** This contest is sponsored and funded by the IACI Jersey Shore Chapter.

**DISCLOSURE:** The Irish American Cultural Institute (IACI) is a federally recognized not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to promote an intelligent appreciation of Ireland and the role and contributions of the Irish in American culture. It is the only Irish-American organization that has as its patron The President of Ireland.