

## **Republican Women of Clallam County Achievement Award Essay Contest**

Essay topic: **Why is the Supreme Court important in the balance of powers: executive, legislative & judicial branches?**

Two Achievement Awards will be given. First prize = \$500.00, Second prize = \$300.00.

Submitters must be currently enrolled as a high school senior attending a public, private, or home school located in the Port Angeles-Sequim, Crescent, or Forks School Districts and planning to attend a post secondary institution.

By submitting an essay, the submitter declares that the essay is his/her original work, that they received no more than limited assistance from others, and that the work does not violate the intellectual property rights of any other person or entity. Any quotations need to be appropriately footnoted.

Essays should demonstrate the submitter's knowledge of history, civics and government. Essays must be submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF), Microsoft Word, or plain text format, must be not less than 400 words and cannot exceed 500 words in length, double space, Times New Roman 12 font and must be in English.

Essays will be judged on the following: content, as well as style, grammar and spelling.

Judging Criteria:

1. Knowledge of the theme: 30 points. You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate you have researched the issue appropriately.
2. Theme development: 35 points. Answer all relevant facts about the theme such as who, what, where, when and why. Relate the topic to current events.
3. Clarity of ideas: 35 points. Write your essay in an easy-to-understand format. Leave your reader with a clear understanding of your explanation of the topic.

Submissions must be received on or before 11:59 PM on April 4, 2014. Submissions must be submitted via email to the Achievement Award Committee at [kpstorst@aol.com](mailto:kpstorst@aol.com). The email message must include the following information about the submitter: full name, age, full residence address, telephone number, email address, school currently attending and name(s) of parent(s)/guardian, name of the institution you are planning to attend. The essay must be included either as an attachment to the email or in the body of the email. Only one essay will be accepted per submitter.

The decision of the judges is final and non-reviewable. The winner of the Achievement Award will be notified on or about the first of May. The winner will be publicly announced and the Achievement Award presented at the May or June RWCC scheduled meeting, the second Monday of each month. The winner will be invited to read his/her essay at the RWCC awards meeting and receive the Achievement Award in person. The winner's family will be invited to attend.

All submitted essays become the property of the Republican Women of Clallam County to use, reproduce, or distribute as it sees fit in its sole discretion, including publication on the Clallam County Republican Party website, although the authorship will be acknowledged. In addition, by submitting an essay, the submitter grants permission to the Clallam County Republican Party to use her or his name and photograph for publicity purposes, including, but not limited to, announcing the winner of the Achievement Award in a press release for local newspapers. Accordingly, the Achievement Award will be presented at the schools' award night or graduation, whichever is appropriate.

For more information about the Republican Women of Clallam County Achievement Award Essay contest or these rules, contact the Scholarship Committee: Penny Thiemann at 360-452-9456.