



Florida Hispanic Heritage Month 2017

Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest

“A recognition of the role of Hispanic-Americans in shaping Florida today”

Official Rules and Guidelines Grades 4-5, 6-8, 9-12

Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest is open to all students attending a Florida school in grades 4-12. Three winners will be selected: one elementary school student (grades 4-5), one middle school student (grades 6-8), and one high school student (grades 9-12). Winners will be notified after September 22, 2017.

Eligibility: Contestants must be Florida residents, attend school in Florida, and able to provide a Social Security Number. Each student may enter only one essay no longer than 500 words in length, written in English, and must be typed.

Entry Dates: Entries can be mailed to Volunteer Florida, Hispanic Heritage Month Committee, 3800 Esplanade Way, Suite 180, Tallahassee, Florida 32311, or submitted electronically at <http://www.floridahispanicheritage.com/>. **All entries must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, September 12, 2017.** (Contestants are responsible for all shipping costs.) Entries submitted electronically will receive email confirmation.

Entry Form: Student must provide all required information requested on the entry form and entry form must be legible. The student and parent/legal guardian are required to read and understand these rules in order to complete the entry form in its entirety. The entry form includes a release and certification that must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Labeling Requirements: Essays must include student's name, home address, telephone number, school the student attends, grade level, title of the essay, works cited page, and a word count.

Public Disclosure: The Florida Public Records Act, located in Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, generally requires that all activities, including this contest, be open to the public. Therefore, all aspects of your involvement in this contest, including your essay, will be subject to public disclosure.

Awards: Winners will receive a 4-Year Florida College Plan scholarship provided by Florida Prepaid College Foundation. Winners will receive awards at Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration to be held in Tallahassee. Reasonable travel and lodging expenses will be paid for the winners and one immediate family member.

In addition to the 500-word essay, each student must also submit each of the following:

- A letter of recommendation (no more than 250 words) from an educator (teacher/principal/coach) or professional (employer/community or business leader) describing why the student is worthy to receive a scholarship and how he/she stands out from his/her peers. **Letters of recommendation sent separately, via mail or electronically, will not be accepted.**
- A 200-250 word personal essay of why the student believes he/she is deserving of the scholarship, what his/her plans are for the future, and what he or she has done recently – during the past six months – to give back to his/her community. **Personal essay sent separately, via mail or electronically, will not be accepted.**



Florida Hispanic Heritage Month 2017

Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's
Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest

“A recognition of the role of Hispanic-Americans in shaping Florida today”

Essays should address the following topic:

“A recognition of the role of Hispanic-Americans in shaping Florida today.”

Florida history contains many examples of Hispanic-Americans who played an important role in shaping Florida - research and write about one that truly interests you. Examples include Juan Ponce de Leon, the Spanish explorer who discovered Florida; Maria Andreu, the first woman to serve as an official lighthouse keeper in Florida and the first Hispanic-American woman to lead a federal shore installation; and Fernando Figueredo, the first Cuban American elected into the Florida Legislature.

Grades 4-5

Using several sources with varying points of view, write about a Hispanic-American from Florida who played an important role in shaping Florida today. *Be sure to properly cite your sources and include a separate works cited page.* (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>)

Grades 6-8

Using several sources with varying points of view, write about a Hispanic-American from Florida who played an important role in shaping Florida today. *Write your essay in a way that encourages the reader to continue to explore the topic further. Be sure to properly cite your sources and include a separate works cited page.* (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>)

Grades 9-12

Using several sources with varying points of view, write about a Hispanic-American from Florida who played an important role in shaping Florida today. *Write your essay in a way that demonstrates a deep understanding of the topic and historical context. Be sure to properly cite your sources and include a separate works cited page.* (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>)



Florida Hispanic Heritage Month 2017

Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest

“A recognition of the role of Hispanic-Americans in shaping Florida today”

Essay Contest Checklist

- Responds to prompt for appropriate grade level
- No longer than 500 words
- Written in English
- Typed
- Use of previously published works properly referenced. **All essays must include work cited page.** The works cited page does not count towards the 500 word essay maximum.
(<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>)

Information included on essay:

- Title of essay
- Word count
- Student's name
- Telephone number
- School student attends
- Grade level

Additional items to be included and submitted together in the entry packet:

- Completed, legible entry form
- Signed Parent/Legal Guardian Waiver
- Letter of recommendation (no more than 250 words) from educator or professional. **Letters of recommendation sent separately, via mail or electronically, will not be accepted.**
- Personal essay including community service statement (200-250 words)
- Submitted in time to be received by Volunteer Florida by **5:00 p.m. EDT on September 12, 2017.**

For more information, visit www.floridahispanicheritage.com or contact Volunteer Florida at 850-414-7400.



Florida Hispanic Heritage Month 2017

Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott's
Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest

“A recognition of the role of Hispanic-Americans in shaping Florida today”

Entry Form and Parent/Legal Guardian Waiver Form Grades 4-5, 6-8, 9-12

Student Name:		Grade:	
Title of Essay:		Word Count:	
Home Mailing Address:		Age:	
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:	
Home Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>			
Parent/Legal Guardian Name:			
Parent/Legal Guardian Cell Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>		Parent/Legal Guardian Email Address:	
School Name:			County:
School Mailing Address:			
City:	State: Florida	Zip Code:	
School Phone Number: <i>(including area code)</i>			

Release Statement:

As parent or guardian, I acknowledge that my child has written the attached essay. Should he or she win the essay contest, I agree to allow the essay to be distributed publicly. I also understand that if it is discovered my child plagiarized or that the thoughts expressed are not his or her own, the essay will be subject to disqualification.

I, _____,
(Print Name of Parent/Legal Guardian), hereby certify the following:

1. I am the parent/legal guardian of _____
2. My child is currently a legal resident of Florida and attends a Florida school.

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature

Date