



<https://www.portlandhumanists.org>

Essay Contest Application for 2021 \$5000 Scholarship

Basic Concept of Humanism

Humanism is a progressive philosophy that encourages using science, reason, and critical thinking to solve problems and to define goals without supernaturalism. It affirms the inherent dignity and worth of each human being and asserts that the ethical principles of truth, fairness, and compassion are essential for governing human actions if we are to improve our world.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicant must be a graduating senior from a public high school in the greater Portland area, who has a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and is scheduled to attend college in the fall of 2021.

Name _____

First	Middle	Last	Birthdate
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Address _____

Street	City	State	Zip Code
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Phones: Cell _____ Landline _____ Email _____

High School _____

Application Requirements

We will judge essays on adherence to the chosen topic, authentic voice, logical support of thesis, clarity, and organization.

We expect students will keep in mind the above core values of Humanism in their approach to the topic.

1. An original essay of 750 to 1,000 words, typed and double-spaced, on one of the following topics:

a--- Many recent protests have called for ways to diminish or remedy racism. How effective are corrective steps such as affirmative action, police reform, reparations, and replacing Confederate symbols like statues and place names?

b--- Especially during a pandemic, how do you suggest we find an appropriate balance between individual freedom and the common good?

c--- How can social media companies identify what is false or misinformation and how might they mitigate it while not hindering free speech?

2. A brief autobiography (not more than 300 words) including interests, activities, and college goals.

3. High school transcript showing GPA of 3.0 or higher.

4. Completed application with **parent's or guardian's signed permission.**

Submit the above materials via email no later than midnight April 9, 2021

TO scholarship@portlandhumanists.org

Parent/Guardian Permission

I, _____ give permission for _____

Print Name of Parent or Guardian Print Name of Student

- to - enter this 2021 essay contest
- have his or her essay published in a Humanist organization newsletter
- present his or her essay to a Sunday meeting of the Humanists of Greater Portland
- have this presentation recorded

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/HGPwinners> to view past presentations.