



AAAEA Essay/ Poster Contest

Announcement and Rules

The Essay/ Poster Contest is sponsored by AAAEA and is open to all students in the **3rd through 8th grades** in the Chicago land area schools. Students submit an essay and a poster about an engineer that they admire. The essay should explain who the engineer is and why the student admires him/her. The poster should depict some aspects of the engineer and the engineer's accomplishment. The purpose of the contest is to stimulate students to consider careers in engineering by fostering interest in engineering through research, essay writing, creating a poster and interacting with engineers.

Rules:

1. The contestants are divided in to three groups: 3rd - 4th grade, 5th – 6th grade, and 7th – 8th grade. There will be three winning entries (one from each group).
2. Students may enter individually or up to three person team from the same grade group. Each entry should have a parent or teacher sponsor.
3. The selected engineer **MUST** have received an Engineering degree (or very closely related field) from a university. The student must include the name of the university as part of his/her essay and/or poster.
4. The essay must be between 250 and 500 words double-spaced on white 8.5" X 11" paper. It is preferred that essays be typed, but clearly hand-written essays will be accepted.
5. Poster size should be 22"X28", 22"X34", or 24"X36" (smaller sizes are NOT accepted). The Poster should depict some aspects of the engineer and the engineer's accomplishment, and shows creativity & neatness
6. Contestants should submit the following three items: 1) Poster, 2) Essay, and 3) the Entry Form
7. The submittals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Essay

- Have the essay explained why the student admires this engineer (10 POINTS)
- Does the essay include a bibliography, utilizing at least one book source, but no more than one web site source (10 POINTS)
- Originality of thought (10 POINTS)

Poster

- Does the poster depict some aspects of the engineer and his/her accomplishment (10 POINTS)
- Creativity (20 POINTS)
- Correct spelling and sentence structure (10 POINTS)

Essay and poster

- Has the students shown how the engineer they admire have made an impact on human life and/or their own life (10 POINTS)
- Has the student expressed him/her thoughts clearly (10 POINTS)
- Neatness (10 POINTS)

8. The Entry Form must be filled out and include the sponsor signature and daytime phone number and email address (this is needed in order to contact the winning entries)
9. All essays are to be in English and include a bibliography, utilizing at least one book source, but no more than two web site sources.
10. The essay and/or poster should explain why the student admires the engineer
11. All essays/ posters submitted become the property of AAAEA and may be displayed on the website and AAAEA publications or in locations throughout the community. Submittals will not be returned.
12. Failure to follow contest rules will result in disqualification of contestant.

Deadline: Entries should be **received** no later than **5:00 p.m. on Monday January 11, 2010.**

Past Years Contests: See the following link for previous contest submittals

WWW.aaaea.org/Photos/2008/Album_2008_EssayPosterContest.htm

Notification of Winners: Will be notified by phone and/or e-mail no later than **February 6, 2010.**

Prizes: The winners from each group will receive the following:

- 1) Each group will receive \$100.
- 2) The winners and their teacher/parent sponsor will be invited to attend the Washington Award Banquet on Friday, February 19th, 2010
- 4) Engineering and/or other book publishing company(s) might sponsor other tangible gifts to the winners, which will be given to the students in the Washington Award Banquet
- 3) The winning essay/poster will be displayed during this event and during Dupage Area E-Week Expo at IIT-Rice Campus on Saturday, February 20th, 2010 (for more info., see www.dupageeweek.iit.edu)

If you have any questions feel free to e-mail Jamal Grainawi, PE, SE, at jgrainawi@aaaea.org, (312) 803-6516, or Dr. Soliman Khudeira, PE, SE at skhudeira@cityofchicago.org (312) 744-9605. We look forward to receiving your responses! *Good Luck!*