

2020 Youth Essay Contest

Youth often have a lot of thoughts and feelings to share with each other, but they are not always able to. This essay contest is an opportunity for them to Speak up!

**"Do you have something you wish your parents could understand?"
OR
"What helps you most when you are struggling with your emotions?"**

Cash Award:

1st Prize: \$200 2nd Prize: \$100

The names of the winners will be announced by the end of June 2020

Who is eligible?

Contest open to all youth between 14-22 years of age, residing in Howard County, Maryland.

Format?

The essay should be 300-500 words. Entries must be typed, double-spaced and must be the author's original work.

How to Enter?

Entries must be emailed to youth@icahoward.org with "Youth Essay Contest" written in the subject line. **Upload deadline: June 30th 2020, 11:59PM EST**

Contest Rules

1. Participants must write on the official topic – choose one of the above topics.
2. Essay must be written in English. Contestants may submit only one essay entry.
3. Each entry must include a Cover Page with the Title of the Contest, name, grade, address and school attending on it. Each page must be numbered.
4. Essays must be typewritten, double-spaced with the contestant's name, grade, address and school attending in the header.
5. Essay must be a minimum of 300 words but no more than 500 words. The title, bibliography or footnotes are not counted in the word limit.
6. Essays will be judged on material organization, vocabulary and style, grammar, punctuation, spelling, neatness, and adherence to contest rules.
7. Do not use real names in the essay for confidentiality - just mention the alias in your cover letter/email.
8. The decision of the ICA Board will be final.
9. For more information, see official rules for entry posted on icahoward.org.