



2017 - 2018 International Achievement Week Observance  
Theme: "When the World Calls, Omega Men Answer"

**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**

Announcement of our Annual

**International High School Essay Contest**

As a mandated element of the Annual International Achievement Week Observance

**November 15 - 21, 2017**

**Awards: Four College Scholarships**

**1st Scholarship: \$5,000; 2nd Scholarship: \$3,000; 3rd Scholarship: \$2,000; 4th Scholarship: \$1,000**

**Eligibility:** The Contest is open to all college-bound, high school seniors who submit an essay application through a Chapter of the Fraternity

**Contest Closes: October 20, 2017**

**RULES**

The essay must be entitled:

**"What Actions Can You Take to Promote Social Justice and Embrace Diversity of All People"**

The essay must be **original** and neither previously published nor secured by copyright.

The essay must be between **700 and 750 words in length**.

**The type-written, double-spaced essay may be submitted via postal service or email in Microsoft Word**

**The following information for the contestant must appear on the first page in this manner:**

**Title:**

**An Essay By:**

**Home Street Address:**

**City, State, Zip Code:**

**Name of High School:**

**Address of High School:**

**Contest Name: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity International High School Essay Contest**

**Name of Chapter Sponsoring Project:**

**Location of Chapter:**

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped no later than midnight, **October 20, 2017**, and **sent to Upsilon Xi Chapter Omega Psi Phi Fraternity P. O. Box 91492 Lakeland FL 33804**

Persons submitting manuscripts thereby grant to the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** the right to keep the manuscripts and to exercise full publishing rights to them. Awards will be announced on or about **June 1, 2018**, and the decision of the judges will be final. The manuscripts must present an adequate treatment of the essay topic. Winners may be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essay was submitted. Awards will be submitted to each winner, **upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required.** Awards must be claimed within 18 months after the announcement date to be valid.

**RATING CRITERIA FOR ESSAYS**

- 1. Development of Topic/Thesis:** (30 possible pts.) Topic well developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)
- 2. Progression:** (20 possible pts.) Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information
- 3. Readability:** (25 possible pts.) Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader's attention)
- 4. Grammar:** (15 possible pts.) Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same
- 5. Spelling:** (5 possible pts.)
- 6. Punctuation:** (5 possible pts.)