



2024 Essay Contest for Jefferson County Students “What on Earth Does God have to do with America’s Constitutional Republic?”

Sponsored by the Keystone Federated Republican Women (KFRW)

Essay Contest Rules

Eligibility: All Jefferson County middle school and high school aged students currently enrolled in public or private schools or homeschooled.

Topic:

Far too many American public and private educational institutions minimize, distort or contest the profound influences of Judeo and Christian principles, including the Old and New Testament of the Bible, on the foundation of our Constitutional Republic. This essay topic provides an opportunity to explore these influences.

Instructions:

Part One of the Essay: Pick one of the following, document or events, for Part 1.

1. Declaration of Independence
2. The “Great Awakening” movement in Colonial America, mainly between 1720 through 1740—Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield were key figures.

Based on your research of your chosen document or events, discuss:

1. How did the Bible, Judeo and Christian beliefs, and the religious convictions of the people involved influence the events in your topic?
2. How did your chosen topic provide a foundation for the structure and spirit of our Constitutional Republic?

Part Two of the Essay:

Pretend you are 35 years old in the year 3000 A.D. The World Economic Forum and the United Nations previously issued a “Global Resolution” in 2600 A.D. that God was dead. 75% of the world’s population agreed with this Global Resolution.

Due to the movement of tectonic plates and the shrinking of the Pacific Ocean, a vast new continent capable of supporting human habitation arose in the Pacific Ocean. It was named **Big Ur**. Before it was colonized, you and 55 other people were chosen to form a committee to draft a document setting up a government in **Big Ur**.

The committee has to reach consensus on the founding document and to get approval of the committee’s agreement from the United Nations and the World Economic Forum.

1. What are the main principles of good government you will advocate to the committee?
2. What documents, events, books, or people, if any, would you use to support your ideas of good government?



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Requirements:

1. The essay is to be typed using 14-point font, and double spaced. The essay should be between 600-850 words. Do not include any photos or images.
2. The essay must have a bibliography listing references utilized, including a list of any internet resources. If internet resources are used, add the electronic address (URL) used to access the document.
3. A separate cover sheet must accompany the essay (see form attached to this announcement).
4. **Do not include your name or the school’s name on any pages of the essay.**

Criteria for Judging: Based upon a 100-point scale, essays will be judged on quality of research, accuracy, writing ability, and grammar. Points will be specifically awarded (as included in the 100-point scale) for **primary source document references** under the quality of research criteria.

Due Date: Your essay must be post marked no later than February 29, 2024.

Mail essay to: Keystone Federated Republican Women
PO Box 45, Monticello, FL 32345

KFRW will recognize all essayists with a participation certificate and award cash prizes to the top essayists in both middle school and high school as follows:

- 1st Place: Award Certificate and \$300.00
- 2nd Place: Award Certificate and \$200.00
- 3rd Place: Award Certificate and \$100.00

Winners will be announced and winning essays read by the winners at an Award Ceremony at the KFRW meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024, 7:00 PM, at the American Legion Post 49, 1065 S. Water Street, Monticello. Please plan to attend.

If you need additional copies of the announcement or have process questions, please contact Gretchen Wallace (850-997-1968), Committee Chair, or Lynn Stafford (850-491-8755) President, or email info@KFRWFL.org. The Essay Contest is also posted at www.KFRWFL.org under Club Events.

Thank you for submitting your essay and good luck!



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Cover Sheet for KFRW 2024 Essay Contest

(Print all Information)

Student Information:

1. Name of Student: _____
2. Name of School: _____
3. Student Grade Level: _____ (if homeschooled, grade equivalency)
4. Date of Birth: _____
5. Home address: _____

Parent or Guardian Contact Information:

1. Email address: _____
2. Phone number: _____

I give the KFRW permission to publish my essay and my picture in the KFRW Newsletter, and local media publications.

I hereby certify that the essay submitted herewith is solely my work product and any quoted information used in the essay is accompanied by a footnote, which references the source of the quoted information.

Signature of Student

Date Submitted

Name of Parent or Guardian (Print)

Parent or Guardian Signature