



Introducing the 2026 State and National FCE Essay Contests

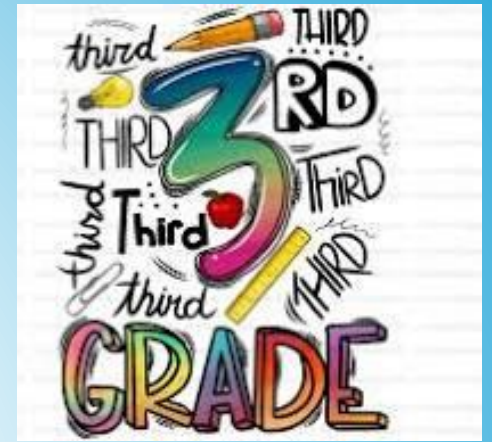
By Scott Teeples – Oregon FCE President



Today we will discuss the following FCE Essays:

- 2026 2nd Grade Essay and Artwork Contest
- 2026 3rd Grade Essay and Artwork Contest
- 2026 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest
- 2026 High School Age Essay Contest





2026 2nd and 3rd Grade Essay and Artwork Contests



The 2nd and 3rd Grade Essay and Artwork Contests are currently only offered in Oregon (North Dakota?)

- These are a “State Only” Essay and Artwork Contests. Currently there it is **NOT** a National 2nd and 3rd Grade Contest
- The 2nd Grade Contests and the 3rd Grade Contest are separate contest
- The yearly theme for the 2nd and 3rd Grade Essay and Artwork contest is the same each year which is **“What do I love most about living in Oregon”**

- Contestants write an essay on the theme and draw artwork depicting what the theme means to them.
- Contestants can do the contest at school, home or any other place.   
- Winners and placers of the contests are awarded a certificate and monetary award at the County and State level.
- Complete rules can be located on the Oregon FCE website <https://www.oregon-fce.org/>

2026 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest

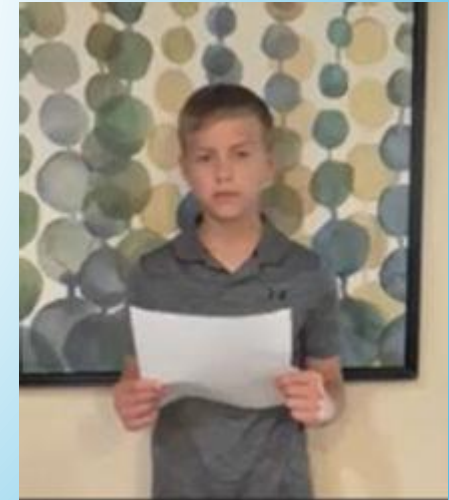
2025 - 1st Place National FCE



2025 - 2nd Place National FCE



2025 - 3rd Place National FCE



The 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest is both a State and National Contest

- The yearly theme for the 4th Grade Essay and Artwork contest changes each year.
- The theme for the 2026 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest is “**Respect**”
- Each state sets their own deadline for submission.
- The deadline to submit the State winner to National FCE is **April 15, 2026.**



- Contestants write an essay on the 2026 theme of “**Respect**” and draw artwork depicting what the theme means to them.
- Contestants can do the contest at school, home or any other place.
- Winners and placers of the contests can be awarded a certificate and monetary award at the County and State.
- Winners and placers are awarded a certificate and monetary award at the National level.

- Complete rules can be located on the State and National FCE 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest can be found on the National FCE website <https://www.nafce.org/resourcelibrary>
- The theme for the **2025** 4th Grade Essay and Artwork Contest **was** “**Trustworthiness**”
- Pictures of the placers, essays, and pictures of the artwork can be found on the National FCE website at <https://www.nafce.org/2025-essay-and-art-work-winners>

2026 High School Age Essay and Artwork Contest

2025 – 1st Place National FCE



2025 – 2nd Place National FCE



Throughout the years there have been discussions across the USA about producing some way of involving and **introducing young adults** into the National Association for Family and Community Education (FCE).





It was way past time to introduce and invite young adults into FCE. Something needed to be done.





Oregon FCE came up with a means of making it happen.

Throughout the years, 4th grade students were introduced to FCE through the National 4th Grade Essay and Artwork contest, but nothing for young adults...





Oregon FCE sponsored the first High School Age Essay Contest in 2024 and proposed that it become a National Contest.



The National FCE Board approved it and it became a State and National Contest in 2025

All of the forms and information for the 2025 National FCE High School Age CHARACTER COUNTS!® Essay Contest can be located on the National FCE website

<https://www.nafce.org/resourcelibrary>



These are generic forms and will need to be formatted for each State Contest. Instructions for editing the generic forms are also located on the website. You can see a formatted, and completed, contest form for Oregon FCE at www.oregon-fce.org.



Two brochures relating to the contest are available including the National FCE “Generic” version and the Oregon FCE version.

<https://www.oregon-fce.org/hs-age-essay-contests>

<https://www.nafce.org/resourcelibrary>



- Using the theme for the year the writer of the Essay **must** discuss ideas and thoughts about the following:
 - How did **Trustworthiness** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, **in the past?**
 - How does **Trustworthiness** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, **in the present?**
 - How will **Trustworthiness** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, **in the future?**
 - How does, and will, **Trustworthiness**, affect you personally **now and in the future?**
- Judging will be on the following: 10% on the Application form, 80% on the Essay, and 10% on the FCE Knowledge Quiz.

- A scoring guide and scoring rubric (included) will be used for the judging of the contest. Please read over it carefully for full details on scoring criteria.
- Judging of all forms, FCE Quizzes, and Essays will be done by at least 3 people.

Your State Contest Coordinator:

State _____
Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Phone _____
Email _____

For questions, please contact:
National Contest Coordinator
Scott Teeple
4338 Arthur Street
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603
Cell phone: 541-891-6456
Email: sfteeples@outlook.com

Strengthening individuals, families, and communities through continuing education, developing leadership and community action.

Membership in the National Association for Family and Community Education is open to all persons without regard to sex, race, color, ethnic background, or economic circumstances.

SPT 6-9-24



2025 National FCE High School Age CHARACTER COUNTS!® Essay Contest

“TRUSTWORTHINESS”
CHARACTER COUNTS!® and Six Pillars of Character®
are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS!® Coalition,
a project of Josephson Institute of Ethics
www.charactercounts.org

The Six Pillars of Character.



Generic forms and instructions can be located at www.nafce.org

State forms and instructions can be located on your State FCE website listed below.

www: _____

The National Association for Family and Community Education (FCE) is sponsoring an annual essay contest for eligible high school aged students.



The National FCE High School Age CHARACTER COUNTS!® Essay Contest provides students the opportunity to write about the CHARACTER COUNTS!® theme for the current year while learning a little about the FCE organization. It also provides students with the opportunity to earn award funds by winning or placing at the state and national levels.

Each State Contest runs from March 1, 2024, to March 1, 2025. **All contest Applications, Essays, and FCE Knowledge Quizzes, must reach the State Contest Coordinator on or before March 1, 2025.** Late, or incomplete entries, will NOT be accepted. The winners and placers of the contest will be announced by April 15, 2025, or as soon as judging is completed.

State FCE monetary award funds will be of the following amounts:

- State 1st Place: \$ _____
- State 2nd Place: \$ _____
- State 3rd Place: \$ _____

The 1st place winners of each state must be submitted by **April 15, 2025**, to National FCE for judging in the National Contest.

National FCE monetary award funds will be of the following amounts:

- National 1st Place: \$500.00
- National 2nd Place: \$300.00
- National 3rd Place: \$200.00

The rules and guidelines for the National FCE High School Age CHARACTER COUNTS!® Essay Contest are as follows:

- The Essay Contest is open to all young adults that will be of high school age on the date of the contest deadline of March 1, 2025.
- The essay can be written at home, school, or other places that may be available.
- The essay must be written by the applicant and not by parents, guardians, teachers, friends, or others.

- The Application Form must be filled out and signed by all necessary signers.
- The Essay must be written about the current National FCE High School Age CHARACTERCOUNTS!® Essay theme.
- The Essay must be properly formatted with name, title, etc.
- The Essay must be between 1,000 and 3,000 words.
- Essays must be typed.**
- All Application Forms, Essays, and FCE Knowledge Quizzes, can be submitted via mail, email, or in person.
- All applicants must complete the Application Form, the FCE Knowledge Quiz, and the Essay, and must be submitted on or before the due date of **March 1, 2025**, to the State Contest Coordinator.

The National FCE High School Age Essay Contest provides students the opportunity to write about the theme for the current year while learning a little about the FCE organization.

It also provides students with the opportunity to earn award funds by winning or placing at the state and national level



The High School Age Essay Contest themes are the following for each year.

2026 Respect

2027 Responsibility

2028 Fairness

2029 Caring

2030 Citizenship

2031 Trustworthiness



The rules and guidelines for the National, and State, FCE High School Age Essay Contest are as follows:

- The Contest is open to all young adults that will be of High School age on the State Contest date deadline of March 1, 2026.
- The essay can be written at home, school, or other places that may be available.   
- The essay must be written by the applicant and **not** by parents, guardians, teachers, friends, or others

- The Application Form must be filled out and signed by all necessary signers.
- The Essay must be written about the current National FCE High School Age Essay theme.

- The Essay must be properly formatted with name, title, etc.
- The Essay must be between 1,000 and 3,000 words.
- Essays must be typed.



2026 High School Age Essay Instructions

Using the theme for the 2026 Contest (**Respect**), the writer of the Essay must discuss ideas and thoughts about the following:



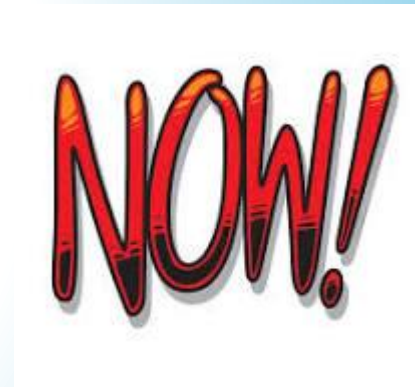
2026 High School Age Essay Instructions (cont.)

1. How did **Respect** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, in the past?



2026 High School Age Essay Instructions (cont.)

2. How does **Respect** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, in the present?



2026 High School Age Essay Instructions (cont.)

3. How will **Respect** affect our communities, at the local, state, national and world level, in the future?



2026 High School Age Essay Instructions (cont.)

4. How does, and will, **Respect**, affect you personally now and in the future?



2026 High School Age Contest

Judging and Scoring

- Judging will be on the following: **10%** on the Application form, **80%** on the Essay, and **10%** on the FCE Knowledge Quiz.



High School Age Contest Judging and Scoring (cont.)

- A scoring guide and scoring rubric (included) will be used for the judging of the contest. Please read over it carefully for full details on scoring criteria.



Contest Judging and Scoring (cont.)

- Judging of all forms, FCE Quizzes, and Essays will be done by at least 3 people.



High School Age State Essay Contest

(Name of State) Association for Family and
Community Education

Each State FCE Contest runs from **April 1, 2025,
to March 1, 2026.** All State contest Applications,
Essays, and FCE Knowledge Quizzes, must reach
the State Contest Coordinator **on or before
March 1, 2026. (Suggested deadline)** Late, or
incomplete entries, will NOT be accepted.

The State winners and placers of the State contest will be announced by **April 15, 2026**, or sooner if judging is completed.

All Application Forms, Essays, and FCE Knowledge Quizzes, can be submitted via mail, email, or in person to the State Contest Coordinator



State Contest Coordinator

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State

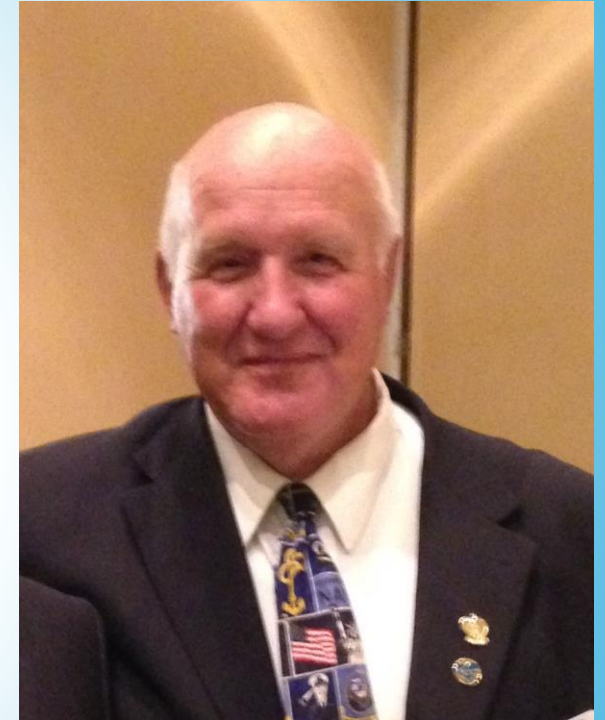
_____ Zip _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

******(Each state must provide their own Contest Coordinator)

Contact your State Contest Coordinator or Scott Teeples, National Contest Coordinator, email: sfteeples@outlook.com, phone: 541-891-6456 if you have any questions.



State FCE monetary award funds will be of the following amounts:

- State 1st Place: \$ _____ (check with each state for amount)
- State 2nd Place: \$ _____ (check with each state for amount)
- State 3rd Place: \$ _____ (check with each state for amount)

**All 1st Place State winners, with completed forms
must be submitted to National FCE Headquarters
on or before**

April 15, 2026.

**Judy Jones, National
FCE Headquarters
Secretary**



2026 High School Age National Essay Contest

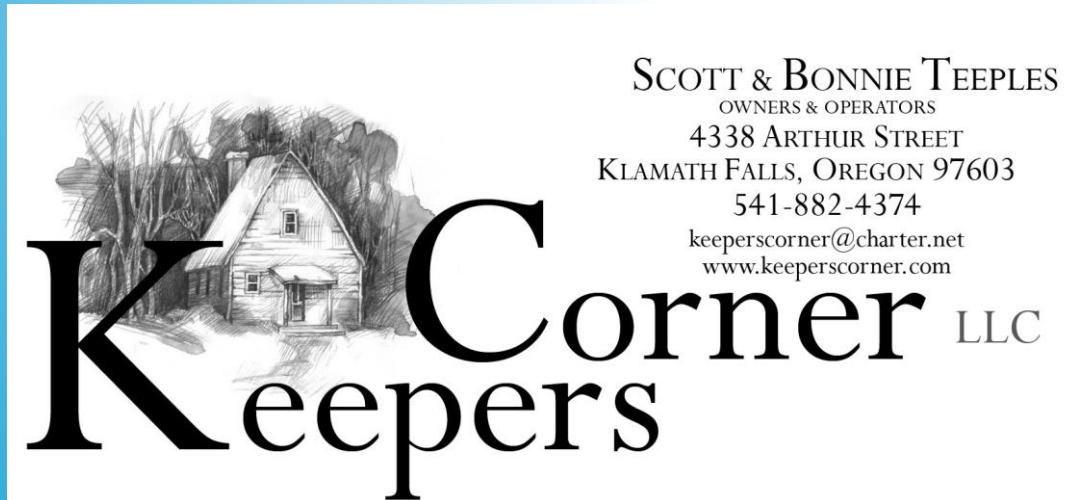
The rules and guidelines for the National (and State) FCE High School Age Essay Contest, other than due dates, are the same.

National FCE monetary award funds ** will be of the following amounts:

- National 1st Place: \$500.00
- National 2nd Place: \$300.00
- National 3rd Place: \$200.00



**** Award funds will be donated by Keeper's Corner LLC – Antique, Craft and Collectible Mall – located in Klamath Falls, Oregon; Bonnie and Scott Teeples – plus donations from others, when given. **National FCE funds will not be used.****



**Donations to
NaFCE for this
contest are
gladly accepted.**



FCE Knowledge Quiz (10% of contest)
(to be filled out, answered, and submitted by contestant)

This FCE Knowledge Quiz, along with the Application, the Essay, and other necessary forms must be submitted **on or before March 1, 2025 (suggested deadline) to the State Association Coordinator.**

Information to answer these questions can be located on the National FCE website **www.nafce.org**. Contestants can also use any internet resources, ask FCE members, friends, family or whoever for information. **(This is an “open book” quiz).**



A 2026 FCE High School Age Essay Knowledge Quiz – Help Sheet will be available.

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

1. What does the acronym FCE stand for?

FCE

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

2. In what year was the National FCE organization and your State FCE organization organized? (If your state does not have FCE, write “NA.”)

National organization _____

State organization _____



High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:



3. Who was the first president of National FCE?

Who is the current president of National FCE?

Who is the current president of your State FCE? (If your state does have FCE, write "NA.")

First National President _____

Current National President _____

Current State President _____

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

4. Write the National FCE Mission Statement.



High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

5. Write the National FCE Creed.

The word "CREED" is displayed in a stylized, colorful font. Each letter is composed of various geometric shapes and patterns in shades of purple, blue, green, and yellow, creating a vibrant and abstract visual effect.

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

6. What are 6 things that FCE does?

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

7. What is the name of the yearly National FCE Contest that is designed and held for 4th grade students?

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

8. Where was the 2025 National FCE Conference held?

City _____, State _____

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

9. What is the name of the 2025, High School Age Essay and Contest Winner and what state did they come from?

Name _____

State _____

High School Age FCE Knowledge Quiz Questions:

10. List 6 states that currently have FCE.

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.

The theme for the **2025** High School Age Essay Contest **was** **“Trustworthiness”**

Essays, pictures, and videos of the National Contest placers can be found on the National FCE website at <https://www.nafce.org/2025-high-school-essay-winners>

Please contact Scott Teeples, 2026 National FCE High School Age Essay Contest Coordinator,
Phone/Text: 541-891-6456; Email:
sfteeple@outlook.com or sfteeple@charter.net, if
you have any questions.

You can also contact him if you have questions about
the 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, or 4th Grade Essay and
Artwork Contest.

Thank You

**Questions
or
Comments?**