

For Essay Judges*

Who can become a contest judge?

1) If you are not currently a teacher, have a high school degree, and **live in the city of Philadelphia**, you can become an essay judge for this contest. Please register by **January 8th** by e-mailing your name, company name, weekend address, and weekend phone number to InspiredExpressions@piecontest.org or call the contest hotline at 215-609-4986.

2) If you are a member of the **Junior League of Philadelphia** (even if you live outside of the city), you may participate by picking up an essay packet at the **general membership meeting on January 16th**. Please RSVP by January 8th through the league calendar at www.juniorleaguephila.org. You will need your user ID and password.

Essay Judging Timeline

Jan 8th – All volunteer judges need to register (see above)

Jan 10th - Approximately 2,000 high school students will each submit a two page essay to their school coordinators.

Jan 10th thru 22nd - The school coordinators will screen the essays for anonymity so judges will not be able to determine the identity of the school or student.

Jan 16th – Members of the Junior League of Philadelphia may pick-up their packets at the general meeting.

Jan 21st - Volunteers from the Junior League of Philadelphia will divide copies of the essays into packets of 40. The original essays will be kept in a safe place and the copies will be hand-delivered to two judges at different registered Philadelphia addresses. Inside the packet will be a thank-you letter, a judging rubric, and contact information for an assigned committee member if you have questions.

Jan 29th - Judges will need to confirm receipt of the packet

Feb 2nd - Judges will return the scored essays in the postage-paid envelope addressed to their assigned contest committee member. Best of School winners will then go on to Round Two.

Late Feb – Expert judges will determine the Best of City winners

Mid-March – Best of School winners and registered judges will receive invitations to the ceremony in early April.

*Due to the quality and quantity of art and music pieces expected, expert judges will score each work to determine the Best of School winners and then also determine the Best of City winners.

The Philadelphia Inspired Expressions Contest is endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National School Boards Association.