

Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Oklahoma Engineering Foundation

FOREWORD

An essay contest will follow the OEF Engineering Fair. Our objective is to get a sense of the Fair's educational value.

There are two competition levels: 6 - 9th grade students and 10 - 12th grade students.

Each **school** may submit a **maximum of three** entries. Schools which have grades 6 through 12 may submit three entries for EACH level of competition.

Each school **MUST** complete a Fair Registration/Competition Entry Form and return it to the OEF office **by February 17, 2012**. Prizes will be awarded to winning entries from **registered** schools (*entries from unregistered schools will **NOT** be eligible for prizes*).

On the following page is a sample form for students to use to take notes while visiting **at least two** booths staffed by engineers at the Fair **or** the essay can be based on the student's overall impression of the Fair. Extra credit will be given to essays based on information acquired from at least two booths.

NOTE TO TEACHER: This entire document should be reproduced for each student who intends to compete in the Essay Contest.

ESSAY RULES

1. Hand-written essays are NOT acceptable. Essay must not exceed **two** 8½" x 11" pages and must have at least 1" margins. *Text must be no less than 12 pt font in either Times New Roman or Arial font.*
2. On a separate cover sheet, stapled to the front of the essay page, the following information should be listed: Essay title, followed by student's name and grade, name of sponsoring teacher, school and the date. Also include student's home address and telephone number (address ONLY used if student is selected as the winner).
3. Grades 6-9: Describe in detail two science or engineering principles or concepts you newly learned while at the Fair. Explain why these two principles or concepts may be important to your life in the future.
4. Grades 10-12: Describe in detail two ways the Engineering Fair could be improved or be made more interesting within the context of where it is held. Explain how these improvements would be likely to persuade a friend, who normally would not be interested in science or engineering, to attend.
5. Submit essay before **March 6, 2012**. **Mail to:** Engineering Fair Essay, Oklahoma Engineering Foundation, 201 N.E. 27th Street - Room 125, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Or, essay may be sent as a MS Word file attachment to an e-mail. Send to EngineeringFair@ospe.org. Faxed copies will not be accepted.
6. Essays become the property of OEF and will NOT be returned. By entering this contest the author gives permission for the Oklahoma Engineering Foundation to reprint the article in their publication.

JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Essays will be evaluated by a committee of engineers and teachers selected by OEF.
2. Judging will be based on creativity, clarity of expression, and freedom from errors.
3. **Decision of the judges will be FINAL.**

PRIZES AND DISTRIBUTION

Contest winners will be announced on the Engineer Fair web page at www.ospe.org/engineeringfair. Those entries winning prizes will be notified directly at their home address by April 15.

First Prize for the 6-9th grade contest is \$25 to the author.

First Prize for the 10-12th grade contest is \$50 to the author.

There is no award given to the classroom for this contest.

