Essay Contest Specifications for 12th Grade High School Students who are English Learners or Learning Two or More Languages

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools invites you to participate in the 33rd Annual Multilingual Recognition Awards Dinner 12th Grade Student Essay Contest

Multilingualism – Exploring The World Through Language and Culture!

Student Deadline for Submission is Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Topic
Multilingualism – Exploring The World Through Language and Culture!

In a multi-paragraph essay, explain how being multilingual is an asset in the workforce and in society. In addition, please include contributions you envision yourself making in the future.

Awards
Three 12th grade high school students will be selected as winners and awarded college scholarships, along with an invitation for themselves and their parents/guardians to attend the 33rd Annual Multilingual Recognition Awards Dinner on Friday, April 24, 2020, from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. All winners must be present at the event and the first place winner must be prepared to read their essay at the event as a condition of receiving their scholarship. All winners will be videotaped at their high school to be presented at the Multilingual Awards Dinner. (Winners must have a General Release form signed.) Winners will be notified by Monday, March 9, 2020.

Eligibility
This essay contest is open to current 12th grade students who are English learners, have previously been identified as an English learner, or are learners of a foreign language and attend a public high school in San Bernardino County.

Criteria
Each essay will be judged on:
1. Development of the theme
2. Originality
3. Content and clarity of expression
4. Language conventions

Rules
Only entries that comply with the following rules will be considered:

Language: Submissions must be written in English and may be translated into the student’s native/second language.

Subject: All essays must address topic: “Multilingualism – Exploring The World Through Language and Culture!” Explain how being multilingual is an asset in the workforce and in society. In addition, what contributions do you envision yourself making in the future?

Length: The number of words must be listed at the end of each essay. Length must be between 500 – 750 words.

Format: The essay must be typed double - spaced. Applicant’s name should not appear on the essay.

Application:
An application form must accompany the essay containing the name of the contestant, his/her native language, contact telephone number with area code, name and address of the school and district, and the recommending teacher’s name. Applications require principal’s and recommending teacher’s signatures verifying that the applicants meet the contest eligibility criteria.

Copyright:
All essays become the property of San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS) and will not be returned. SBCSS reserves the right to publish all essays.

Entry submission
All essays are first to be submitted to the student’s teacher by Wednesday, February 19, 2020. Each district may select up to four essays. Each district will submit the selected essays electronically in PDF format with subject heading “2020 MLRD Essay Contest” to angelica.hurtado@sbcss.net by Friday, February 21, 2020.