

TEXAS SOCIETY ORDER OF CONFEDERATE ROSE, INC.



Marilyn C. Sweeney ***TSOCR 2011 Scholarship Essay Contest Application***

The Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose (TSOCR) recognizes that our young people are our local, state and national leaders of tomorrow. We strive to make them aware of our historical and educational purposes through our scholarship opportunity. The TSOCR Scholarship Award program is designed to award annually a scholarship to a graduating high school or home school student in Texas who will further their education at a post-secondary institution. The amount of this award is \$1,000.00.

The application and requirements for this scholarship essay contest follows. Students will write an essay on a given topic and submit their essay along with other required documentation (see Essay Guidelines). The scholarship winner will be selected based on their essay. If there is a tie, the Scholarship Committee will review all applications and make a selection based on the entrant's supporting documentation. Every chapter is asked to distribute the scholarship packet to all interested students in their area. The TSOCR Scholarship Committee will announce the winner by May 15, 2011. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2011 and mailed to the address below. Essays may be e-mailed in a Word format to Scholarship Chairman Susan Sager at montgomeryrose47@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please call 713-305-2836 or 832-458-0357.

Applications, essays and letters should be mailed to:

Susan Sager
TSOCR Scholarship Chairman
P O Box 2433
Spring, TX 77383-2433

Selection will be made by May 15, 2011 and announced at the TSOCR State Convention. The individual selected will be notified by telephone and by letter on or after May 15. Winning entrant should plan to attend the State Convention in Bryan, Texas on Saturday, June 4, 2011 to accept their award.

The Application, Essay Guidelines and Judging Criteria are attached.

Norma Holley
Director
TSOCR



Marilyn C. Sweeney
2011 TSOOCR Scholarship Application Form



SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ - _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Telephone: _____

Applicant's e-mail address: _____

SECTION II: SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of High School/Home School: _____

City: _____ Graduation Date: _____

College Selected: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Admission Semester: _____

College Contact Name & Phone Number: _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ **DATE:** _____

The purpose of the *Marilyn C. Sweeney Scholarship* is to provide \$1,000.00 to a graduating high school or home school student. Applicant must plan to further their education at a post-secondary institution, either college, technical or a vocational school.

Attach to the application:

1. Essay
2. Recommendation Letters
3. Biographical Letter

Mail application, essay and letters to:

Susan Sager, TSOOCR Scholarship Chairman
 P O Box 2433
 Spring, TX 77383-2433

If you have any questions, please call 713-305-2836 or e-mail montgomeryrose47@gmail.com.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2011.

Payment of \$1,000.00 will be made to the post-secondary institution where the recipient will attend. Proof of enrollment **MUST** be provided to the TSOOCR Treasurer with the school Registrar's signature. Winner will be notified of procedures for submitting proper proof by the TSOOCR Treasurer.

Scholarship awarded: ___ Yes ___ No	Chairman Signature: _____
Date Approved: _____	TSOOCR Director Signature: _____

TSOCR Scholarship Essay Contest Guidelines

2011 Essay Topic:

“The value of letters, diaries and journals of the soldiers and their families during the War Between The States (1861-1865) and how they enable us to better understand the life as it was at the time”.

Essay Guidelines:

- The applicant will do research on the selected topic and stay within the specified timeframe.
- Essays should not reference “Civil War” except in quote.
- Cover Page: Title and author’s name centered to the middle of the page.
- Text: Essay must be typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman with 1” margins, each page must be numbered.
- Length: Minimum of 3 pages but not to exceed 6.
- Paragraphs: Each paragraph should be well developed and contain a minimum of 3-5 sentences.
- No header/footer with identifying information.
- Bibliography/End Notes: MLA or other acceptable research style, must be included on a separate page.
- Sources: minimum of 5 sources cited: can use the internet for ONLY 2 sources, others should be published materials.

Attach to the application:

1. Essay.
2. Two letters of recommendation from any of the following: teacher, employer, pastor, or persons from organization in which you participate. Letters should be no longer than one 8 ½ x 11 inches, double-spaced typed page.
3. A biographical letter including information about yourself, family, activities, future goals and reason for applying for scholarship. Letters should be no longer than one 8 ½ x 11 inches, double-spaced typed page.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2011.

Mail application, essay and letters to:

Susan Sager, TSOCR Scholarship Committee Chairman
P O Box 2433
Spring, TX 77383-2433

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montgomeryrose47@gmail.com.

TSOCR SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST JUDGING CRITERIA

The winning essay will be determined based on the following criteria. This is to be followed as closely as possible by all judges in order to standardize the contest. Each essay may receive a maximum of 100 points. Points are distributed as follows (this is maximum number of points in each category).

FORM/QUALITY OF WRITING: (20 POINTS TOTAL)

This is the structural part of the essay--the "bones" upon which the rest hangs. It is essential to support the essay so this part is worth **20 points** as good form is expected.

GRAMMAR: (5 POINTS) Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. Applicants should proofread their essays and ask for additional proofreading assistance. These are college level students (high school/home school seniors) and there should be no reason for simple grammatical errors.

ORGANIZATION: (5 POINTS) Organization of an essay means the pattern of ideas expressed by the applicant, most usually top to bottom in an essay of limited length. Does the information flow easily from one thought to another? Was the essay easy to read? A disorganized essay should earn no points.

STYLE: (5 POINTS) Use of proper words, sentence structure, paragraphing, etc. This includes reasonable paragraphing and creative word use of any sort. Writer uses appropriate word choice and active voice with no rambling. (Paragraphs in right place, excellent construction, correct punctuation, etc., give 5 points. Subtract points for run-on sentences, improper paragraphs, incorrect punctuation, etc.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY/ENDNOTES: (5 POINTS) MLA research style or other acceptable style. Endnotes may be used but are not required. A Bibliography/Works Cited page **MUST** be included on a separate page at the end of the document. Minimum of 5 sources cited: can use the internet for only 2 sources, other sources should be published materials.

CONTENT: (60 POINTS TOTAL)

This is the essential part of the essay and is worth **60 points**. Must include the main and supporting ideas of the topic of this year's essay and be limited to the time period of the War Between the States (the term "Civil War" should not be used except when quoted). Essays should be a minimum of three (3) double spaced typed pages not to exceed six (6) pages. The essay writer must have demonstrated preparation toward the goal stated.

THESIS STATEMENT: (20 POINTS) It is essential that the theme of the essay is clearly stated as outlined on the scholarship application. The thesis statement should address the topic.

SUPPORTING IDEAS: (20 POINTS) The main idea(s) presented in the essay must be thoroughly discussed and the theme carried throughout the essay. The subject is discussed clearly and in an interesting manner. Did they relate their ideas to the reader? Is the essay historically accurate? Did they stay focused on the topic? Supporting paragraphs must be well developed and have at least 3-5 sentences.

CONCLUSION: (20 POINTS) The conclusion should summarize or restate the main idea of the essay and tie it all together. It should be brief but give the impression that the idea is fully covered.

OVERALL PRESENTATION: (20 POINTS TOTAL)

This is the overall feel of the essay and is worth **20 points**.

EFFECTIVENESS: (10 POINTS) The judges must have the impression that the essay highlights the essence of the contest theme.

CREATIVITY: (10 POINTS) Does the essay show originality of thought and/or presentation? The writer can cite examples, observations, studies, experience, and activities in support of the main idea of the essay.

Note to Judges: You are ranking (not scoring) the essays, thus each judge may give partial points differently, but the total from all judges will select the “best” based on each judging ranking. Judge as objectively as possible in all categories. The essay that you deem better, gets more points.

CRITERIA	POINTS RANGE	POINTS AWARDED
FORM/QUALITY OF WRITING (20 POINTS TOTAL)		
Grammar (5)	0-5	
Organization (5)	0-5	
Style (5)	0-5	
Bibliography/Endnotes (5)	0-5	
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>		
CONTENT (60 POINTS TOTAL)		
Thesis Statement (20)	0-20	
Supporting Ideas (20)	0-20	
Conclusion (20)	0-20	
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>		
OVERALL PRESENTATION (20 POINTS TOTAL)		
Effectiveness (10)	0-10	
Creativity (10)	0-10	
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>		
TOTAL POINTS	100 possible	