



## National Garden Clubs High School Essay Contest

Are you interested in participating in an essay contest, with a \$1,000 award? Spirit of the Woods Garden Club, Inc. is partnering with the Armory Youth Project (AYP) to assist high school students with the essay. If you are interested, please join us at the AYP. Bring your Chrome Book if possible. We will be there to help you at these times:

- Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> between 3 and 5
- Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> between 3 and 5
- Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> between 3 and 5
- Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> between 3 and 5
- Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> between 3 and 5

Additional dates and times will be added if there is interest.

National Garden Clubs Inc. (NGC) 2020-2021 Essay Contest Topic is: "Adapting our Actions to Protect our Natural Habitats"

A \$1,000 NGC Scholarship will be awarded to the National Winner. The second place winner will receive \$100. The Spirit of the Woods Garden Club will give a \$50 award to first place in our county. There are also awards for first place in our district (\$100) and the state (\$300).

The Essay Contest is open to high school students grades 9 through 12.

Essays must be received by the Spirit of the Woods Garden Club by January 4, 2021.

Email them to Beth Markowski at:

markowski.beth@gmail.com

Contact Beth at 616.401.3387 to confirm receipt of your entry.

Essay directions:

- Contest entries must be 600 to 700 words in length. The entry will be penalized if the essay does not conform to the required length.
- All entries must be typed and titled.
- Entries must have a cover sheet that includes entrant's name, address, phone number, school attending, grade, list of activities, and sponsoring club (photo optional)
- Entrants must complete the attached release form.
- Students should write the essay so it is suitable to be published in the NGC digital publication, *The National Gardener*.

Contest submissions will be evaluated based on the following point scale.

- Content: 60 points

- Knowledge of subject: 10 points
- Thesis statement: 10 points
- Practicality of Proposal: 10 points
- Originality: 15 points
- Organization, clarity of subject matter and presentation: 15 points
  
- Composition: 20 points
  - Grammar and punctuation: 10 points
  - Vocabulary and spelling: 10 points
  
- Manuscript: 20 points
  - Conformance to length: 5 points
  - Cover sheet includes: Name, address, phone number, school attending, grade, list of activities, and sponsoring club (photo optional): 5 points
  - Entry is submitted via email in PDF document format: 5 points
  - Entry includes NGC, Inc. release for publication and website form: 5 points