



**General De Lafayette Chapter**

**National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**

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Washington, DC 20006-5303

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For Immediate Release

## Essay Contest for Local Students

The General de Lafayette Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution invites students in grades 5-8 to participate in the Annual American History Essay Contest. The local winner will have the opportunity to compete at the state contest and state winners will compete at the national level.

The topic of this year's essay is "The Women's Suffrage Campaign." This topic is also a special reminder that in June 2019 we will be honoring the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment as passed by Congress. This important amendment gave women in America the right to vote and hold elected office.

The right to vote, however, did not come easy. Many Americans at the time viewed this amendment as a radical change to the U.S. Constitution. Students are asked to imagine what it would have been like to be living in 1919 while the women's suffrage campaigns were having an impact on Americans politically and socially, then write an essay which discusses the pros and cons of this new amendment the U.S. Congress has passed.

Grade 5 level students are required to submit an essay 300-500 words in length; grades 6, 7, and 8 should submit an essay 600-1000 words long. Judging will be based on historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of material, interest, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and neatness. Sources are to be cited, and no graphics nor pictures, maps, etc., are accepted. Additional requirements and answers to specific questions can also be obtained by contacting our chapter regent at 765.490.7254.

This essay contest aligns the Indiana Department of Education grades 5-8 Standards of Learning for Literacy in Social Studies (6-8.LH) including but not limited to: 1.1-1.2, 2.1-2.3, 4.2-4.3, 5.1-5.2, 6.1-2, 7.3

The contest is open to all students in 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in public, private, parochial or home school environment and is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin.

Deadline for submission is Friday, Nov. 16, 2018.

Electronic submissions are to be sent via email to Cecily Schneider at [generaldelafayette@gmail.com](mailto:generaldelafayette@gmail.com).

Printed or hard copy submissions are to be mailed to: General de Lafayette, NSDAR, P. O. Box 1, Lafayette, IN 47902



Winning essays will be announced on December 15, 2018 and will be forwarded to further levels within DAR for regional, state or national judging. A local recognition and awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the Sacred Grounds Coffee Shop located at 724 Wabash Avenue in Lafayette.

The General de Lafayette Chapter, NSDAR, members volunteer countless hours each year to support the DAR's mission of education, historic preservation, patriotism, conservation, and Native American issues through awards, scholarships, support of veterans and veteran's groups, donations, workshops and more.

The chapter was founded in 1894, and is dedicated to preserving history, promoting patriotism, conservation and historic awareness in our community, and securing America's future through better education for children. Membership is established through approval of documentation of direct lineage from an American Revolutionary War Patriot. For more information, please contact our regent at [generaldelafayette@gmail.com](mailto:generaldelafayette@gmail.com) or find us online at: <https://generaldelafayette.wordpress.com>.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. With more than 177,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the world during the past three years. To learn more about the work of today's DAR, visit [www.DAR.org](http://www.DAR.org) or connect with DAR on social media at [facebook.com/TodaysDAR](https://facebook.com/TodaysDAR), [twitter.com/TodaysDAR](https://twitter.com/TodaysDAR) and [youtube.com/TodaysDAR](https://youtube.com/TodaysDAR).

**National Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST 2018–2019**

**(This information is for chapter and school use)**

<b>TOPIC:</b>	Topic for 2018-2019: The 19 <sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed by the United States Congress on June 4, 1919, and was ratified on August 18, 1920. This amendment granted all American women the right to vote and hold elective office. Many Americans at the time viewed this as a radical change to the U.S. Constitution. Imagine you are living in 1919 while the women’s suffrage campaigns were having impact on Americans politically and socially. Discuss the pros and cons of this new amendment the U.S. Congress has passed.
<b>PARTICIPANTS:</b>	All grade 5, 6, 7, and 8 students in a public, private, or parochial school, or those who are home schoolers, are eligible. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. <b>DO NOT SUBMIT A STUDENT PHOTOGRAPH WITH ENTRY.</b>
<b>LENGTH:</b>	<b>Grade 5: 300–600 words    Grades 6, 7, and 8: 600–1,000 words</b>
<b>FORM:</b>	Essay is to be handwritten in black ink, typed, or prepared on a computer or word processor, using black type in a non-script font no smaller than 12 point or larger than 14 point. A limited vision student may use Braille, a tape recorder, or very large type. A written transcript must be included, as well as a teacher’s or physician’s letter attesting to the student’s special need. All of the essay must be the student’s original work. Each essay must have a title page listing the following: Title of Essay: “ <b>The Women’s Suffrage Campaign</b> ” (A subtitle is permitted if written below the topic.) Contestant’s full name and address. (street, rural route, PO Box, city, state, zip code) <u>Note:</u> If the school’s regulations prohibit providing the student contact information, then school contact information may be substituted. Contestant’s phone number (with area code) and e-mail address, if available Name of contestant’s school with grade level indicated Name of sponsoring DAR chapter Number of words in essay
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY:</b>	Essay must have a bibliography listing all references utilized. Internet resources, if used, should be cited in similar format to that used for printed resources. Add the electronic address used to access the document as supplementary information. Any essay with information copied directly from sources without using quotes will be disqualified.
<b>JUDGING AND AWARDS:</b>	Judging will be based on historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of material, interest, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and neatness. Pictures, maps, drawings, graphics, and other such additions <i>will not</i> be considered in judging and should not be included. Judging at the chapter level is by three judges, including at least one non-DAR judge. Judging at other levels is by three judges, all of whom are non-DAR members. <b>CHAPTER:</b> One essay at each grade level is selected as the chapter winner and forwarded to the state American History chair for state competition. American History essay contest chapter winner certificates and bronze medals may be presented by the chapter if desired. In addition, chapters may present certificates of participation to every student who participates in the essay contest. These supplies are available from The DAR Store. <b>STATE:</b> One essay at each grade level is selected as the state winner and forwarded to the appropriate national division vice chair of American History for division competition. The state winner receives a silver medal and state winner certificate. <b>DIVISION:</b> One essay in each grade is selected as the division winner and forwarded for national competition to the national vice chair. Division winners are presented a division winner certificate. <b>NATIONAL:</b> One essay in each grade is selected as the national winner. A certificate, gold pin and monetary award is presented to each national winner at Continental Congress in June 2019. Winning essays may appear in official DAR communications. <i>Note: All essays must first be submitted to a local chapter. Essays sent directly to the national chair or vice chair of the essay contest will not be considered.</i>
<b>DEADLINE:</b>	Chapter chairs should determine date for students/schools to forward essays to them to allow for judging to be completed prior to state deadline. <i>States with district level judging should set appropriate intermediate deadlines. Date assigned: Friday, Nov. 16, 2018.</i>

**NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF CHAPTER CONTACT PERSON** Diana Vice, Regent - 765.490.7254

**NAME OF SPONSORING DAR CHAPTER** General de Lafayette chapter of the NSDAR

If additional information about the contest is needed, please contact the Office of the Historian General, NSDAR, at  
1776 D Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006–5303    Phone: (202) 879–3256