



Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Children Essay Contest 2013

Essay Contest Guidelines

Essay Theme: Cultivating Brighter Futures

Some ideas to get you started:

- What kind of crops do you or your family work in?
- Does your family need to move away from your home each year?
- What are the challenges faced by farmworker children?
- Describe the typical work day of a farmworker.
- What are your dreams for your future and how will you get there?
- Who inspires you to get an education for a brighter future?

Eligibility:

Open to children of migrant or seasonal farmworkers
Children must be 10 to 18 years of age

Rules and Format:

Entries will compete in one of the age categories: Age 10-13 and Age 14-18. Category placement is based on the age when essay was submitted.

Essay must be solely the work of the student.

Essays must be typed or printed (no cursive). Illegible essays will be disqualified.

For Age 10-13: Essay must be between 250-400 words, approximately 1 to 1 ½ double-spaced pages

For Age 14-18: Essay must be between 500-700 words, approximately 2 to 3 double-spaced pages

Essays must be in either English or Spanish.

Submissions must include the following:

- Complete essay application with full address and phone number
- One essay
- A picture of yourself, preferably working in the field

Deadline: August 2, 2013

Prizes for each age category:

First place -- \$300

Second place -- \$200

Third place -- \$100

Submit essays and materials to:

Norma Flores López

Director of *Children in the Fields Campaign*

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

1726 M St. NW, Suite 602

Washington, DC 20036

All materials submitted will become the property of the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs and may be used at AFOP's discretion. Materials will not be returned.

The best essays will be compiled in a booklet to be presented to key members of Congress to share a piece of the lives of migrant and seasonal farmworker youth.

Essays will be judged by the Child Labor Coalition (CLC) steering committee and partners. The CLC is a coalition of organizations that are concerned about the well-being of children around the world. The contest judges are professional leaders from the member organizations of the CLC. The decisions of the judges are final.

Essays will be judged on both style and content. Judges will look for writing that is clear, articulate and logically organized. (See Scoring Rubric)

Winners will be notified via telephone or by mail by August 30, 2013. First place winners will be invited to present their winning entry at the AFOP National Conference on September 25, 2013 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Names of winners and winning entries will be published in AFOP's *Washington Newslines* and AFOP will issue press releases announcing the winners. All contact information of participants will be kept confidential.

Essay Application (Solicitud de Ensayo)

Full Name (Nombre Completo): _____

Age (Edad): _____ Date of Birth (Fecha de Nacimiento): _____

I am the child of a migrant or seasonal farmworker (Soy hijo/hija de un trabajador agrícola migrante o temporal): Yes/Sí () No ()

Gender (Sexo): Male/Masculino () Female/Feminina ()

How did you hear about the essay contest? (¿Cómo se enteró del concurso de ensayo?):

Please indicate the phone number and address where you can be reached as of August 2, 2013 (Por favor, indique el número de teléfono y la dirección donde se puede contactarle después del 2 de agosto de 2013):

Phone number (Teléfono) 1: () _____

Phone number (Teléfono) 2: () _____

Address (Dirección) 1: _____

Address (Dirección) 2: _____

Email: _____

Alternate Contact Person: (Name/Nombre) _____

Phone (Teléfono): _____

Scoring Rubric

1 = Weak 2 = Moderately Weak 3 = Average 4 = Moderately Strong 5 = Strong

1. The student introduces the topic or experience in a way that draws in the audience.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The student clearly states the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The student focuses on his/her personal thoughts and feelings about the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

4. The student uses memorable sensory description in relaying specific details.

1 2 3 4 5

5. The student presents events in chronological order or in another order that the audience can follow.

1 2 3 4 5

6. The student expresses the personal meaning or value of the topic or event.

1 2 3 4 5

7. The student concludes in a way that reiterates his/her attitude toward the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

8. The spelling, punctuation, and grammar on the essay are accurate.

1 2 3 4 5

9. The essay is neatly typed or handwritten.

1 2 3 4 5

Additional Comments:

Total Points: _____

Adapted from Rubric 41 by Holt, Rinehart and Winston.