

2018 Oklahoma 4-H Foundation Essay Contest

Oklahoma 4-H Foundation is excited to offer the 2nd annual Dr. Ron and Linda Sholar Essay Contest. Members ages 13 and older are invited and encouraged to enter this contest, sponsored by Dr. Ron and Linda Scholar.

Background - Dr. Ron Sholar spent three decades as a Cooperative Extension Specialist and Professor of Plant Science at Oklahoma State University. In addition to a career in Extension, he served in the US Army and Army Reserve for 39 years before retiring in 2010 as a Major General. Mrs. Linda Sholar spent her professional career as a kindergarten teacher in the Stillwater, OK public school system where she was dedicated to instilling a life-long love of learning in her students

The Sholar's strongly support youth development programs that encourage the recognition of excellent communication skills critical for success.

Purpose - The purpose of the essay contest is to:

1. Provide participants an opportunity to express themselves in regards to the impact of 4-H on their home state of Oklahoma and the influence of 4-H on them personally.
2. Encourage the development of excellent skills of written expression.

Theme: "Because of 4-H, I can....."

Description, Prizes & Deadline: The Oklahoma 4-H Foundation will administer the inaugural Dr. Ron and Linda Sholar Essay Contest.

Essays will be judged by a selection committee with separate cash prizes awarded to the winners. First place cash prize of \$500, \$300 for second place and \$200 for third.

The entry deadline for this contest is April 27, 2018. Entries postmarked by April 27th will be accepted. Essay contest winners will be selected and notified in May of 2018 with formal presentation of award checks at a later date.

Eligibility: The contest is open to all Oklahoma 4-H Members age 13 and older.

Format and Contents: All essays should be no less than 1,000 words and no more than 1,200 words, typed and double spaced. Include your name, age, address, telephone number, school, and grade as well as a statement from a parent, guardian or 4-H Educator certifying that the essay is your original work. The main selection criteria will be creativity and presentation of thought.

All entries are to be submitted to:

**Oklahoma 4-H Foundation, Inc.
Attn: Sarah Dunn
205 4-H Youth Development Building
Stillwater, OK 74078-6063**

Entries must be postmarked on or before the entry deadline of April 27, 2018. All entries become the property of the Oklahoma 4-H Foundation.