

MONTANA MINING ASSOCIATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR 8TH GRADE ESSAY CONTEST

\$400 FOR FIRST PLACE, \$250 FOR SECOND PLACE
AND \$100 FOR THIRD PLACE

TOPIC FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

What is the single biggest safety, regulatory, or environmental change that has positively affected mining, miners, or mining communities since Montana became a state?



Essays are scored by members of the MMA Education Committee and the top three essays yield monetary scholarships, publication in our 2016 Montana Mining Magazine and on our website, www.montanamining.org.

In addition, the winners will be invited to be our guests and to present before our members at the Montana Mining Association's Annual Meeting on May 26, 2016 at Fairmont Hot Springs.

The Rules

Language: Entries must be written in English.

Entries: Only one entry per student.

Essay Length: 750-1000 words. Pages should be typed and double spaced or neatly hand written in ink and stapled.

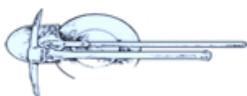
Deadline: Entries must be either postmarked or time stamped no later than **Monday, April 15, 2016**. All entries become the property of the Montana Mining Association and will not be returned. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded in May 2016.

Instructions: On first page of essay, clearly label:

- Student Name
- School Name
- School Address and Phone Number
- Teacher's Name and Email Address

Submission: Essays can be snail mailed or sent via electronic mail to the following:

Montana Mining Association
2015-2016 School Year Essay Contest
P.O. Box 1026
Whitehall, MT 59759
Email: tjohnson@montanamining.org



MONTANA MINING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1026, Whitehall, Montana 59759

(406) 287-3012 | tjohnson@montanamining.org | www.montanamining.org

ESSAY CONTEST SCORING

Essay Content: The point of an essay is to develop your understanding of the topic question. You should conduct some research relative to the topic question. That research should help you to consider every part of the topic question. The research you do then provides the factual basis for your opinion; however, the goal of this essay is not simply to restate those facts. The goal of the essay is to help you better understand the topic so that you may develop a personal, mature, and informed opinion about the topic question. Once your opinion is developed, the essay allows you to present your unique perspective on the topic question. The essay should clearly communicate your opinion using correct grammar, spelling and literary style.

Essay Scoring: Essays will be scored from 1-5 with 5 being excellent and 1 being poor using a rubric based of the following criteria:

- 20% Understanding of the topic: To what extent did the writer demonstrate a clear understanding of the question and respond with detail.
- 20% Original thinking relative to the topic: To what extent was the original thinking relative to the subject?
- 20% Effectiveness in presenting a point-of-view: To what extent did the writer present his/her point of view?
- 20% Quality of detail: To what extent is the essay non-specific or very specific and supported by facts?
- 20% Literary style, grammar, and spelling: To what extent does the essay utilize clear and effective language, excellent grammar, and spelling?

PUBLICATION

Winners will be asked to give permission for the publication of the essay and any accompanying photo in the 2016 Montana Mining Magazine, on the MMA website, and in the 2016 MMA Annual Meeting material.