George Mason Essay Contest

George Mason, the writer of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, knew the importance of words. Today, we invite all 4th grade students and classes to follow his example by sharing their ideas through the George Mason Essay Contest.

This year’s question:

George Mason set an example in helping his community by writing Virginia’s constitution and by protecting certain individual rights. How can you help make your community a better place?

First Place Prize

$75
PLUS a scholarship to Gunston Hall’s Writing Workshop on March 28, 2020.

The winner’s teacher receives a complimentary class field trip or outreach session.

Criteria

The contest is open to students in 4th grade. Essays should be a maximum of 500 words.

The rubric for evaluating essays is based on the Virginia Standards of Learning for Language Arts. Essays will be evaluated for:

- Connection to the question
- Clarity and organization
- Grammar, punctuation, and spelling

Judging is at the discretion of representatives of Gunston Hall, and will be blind and anonymous. The contest closes March 13, 2020.

Visit https://bit.ly/37rgQyJ to collect an entry form. Please use one form per student. For any questions, please contact Dylan McCartney – School and Youth Programs Coordinator at dylan.mccartney@gunstonhall.org

Don’t forget about our

Annual Writers’ Workshop at Gunston Hall

Open to all 4th and 5th Graders
Saturday, March 28, 2020, 10 am-4 pm
Registration is required, and space is limited. $18 per student.