



**Opportunities for Youth
"OUTSTANDING YOUTH AWARD"
Contest Rules**

1. Contest Rules

- a. Contestants shall be evaluated on high school grade point average, a personal biographical information statement, three letters of recommendation, performance of community service, leadership experience/participation and a personal interview.
- b. The following criteria shall be used for judging the essays:
 - i. Twenty percent (20%) - Grade point average
 - ii. Five percent (5%) - Personal Biographical Information Statement
 - iii. Fifteen percent (15%) (total) - Three letter of Recommendation
 - iv. Thirty percent (30%) - Community Service / Leadership
 - v. Thirty percent (30%) - Personal Interview
- c. Judges shall be persons who are knowledgeable about community service and high school level leadership.
- d. All Lions District 2-S2 contests shall be conducted in the English language and Contestants, during contest presentations, shall speak English.
- e. The contest area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances, and have controlled access.
- f. Immediately prior to the commencement of the contest, Contestants will draw for the order of appearance before the judging panel.
- g. Contestants shall remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Official.
- h. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the interview and reminded before each contestant interview of the same requirement.
- i. The audience will be asked to turn off any cell phones and/or electronic devices during the contest time.
- i. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disqualification of a Contestant at the discretion of the Contest Official.
- j. Contestants will not give any self-introduction but shall state their name and the interview shall proceed.
- k. Following the Contestant's interview he/she will take a seat in the area assigned for the Contestants and remain in the contest area until the final interview, judges have completed scoring the contest and introductions have been completed.
 - i. The Contest Official may allow an exemption of this requirement for medical reasons/emergencies, restroom breaks or for other reasons deemed acceptable by the Contest Official.
 - ii. Request may be made between Contestant presentations only.
- l. No one will be allowed to either enter the contest area during an interview essay, or leave once they have entered, until all of the Contestants have completed their interviews and the Judges have finished scoring the Contestant.

- m. When all interviews have been completed, Contestants, in the order of their presentation, will stand and state their names, hometowns, ages, schools, grade levels, and their Club and Lions Club sponsors.
- n. At the end of this process, the audience may then collectively applaud all Contestants.
- o. Persons involved in conducting of the contest, parents, chaperones, and guests of the Contestants, may then be introduced at the discretion of the Contest Official, as time allows.

2. Awards

- a. The 1st place winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship.
- b. The 2nd place winner will receive a \$500.00 scholarship.
- c. Any contest winner who wishes to participate in the State Contest, travel to and lodging in El Paso will be the responsibility of the contestant or the sponsoring club.
- d. To collect the scholarship award, the Contestant must complete the following process:
 - i. Contestant must send a request for payment from the registrar of a university, college, junior college or vocational school.
 - ii. Send request for payment to:

**Lions District 2-S2 Treasurer
6210 Wynwood Lane
Houston TX, 77008-3242
H: 713-861-8733**

- 3. If a request for payment from an institute of higher education is received from the school, the scholarship money will be made payable directly to the school.
- 4. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's graduation from High School.
- 5. Rules of Eligibility for Contestants
 - a. A Club may sponsor no more than one Contestant in each contest by submitting a completed entry application (containing all requested signatures), associated documents, and the entry fee to the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Chairperson prior to the entry deadline..
 - b. A false statement on the entry application, or associated documents, causes disqualification of the Contestant, with the entry fee being forfeited.
 - c. There shall be no refund of any entry fee, .
 - d. Each contestant must be or have been a regularly enrolled student in a public high school or comparable educational program, located in Texas,

- e. Each contestant must be a junior, senior at the time of the Lions District 2-S2 contest.
- f. Contestants shall not have been married, had a marriage annulled, cohabited with a person of the opposite sex who is unrelated to the Contestant or who has participated in the conception of a child before participation in the Lions District 2-S2 contest.

6. Responsibilities of Contestants

- a. Each Contestant shall be required to submit the following to the Contest Coordinator, contact information in paragraph 8.
 - i. *An entry fee of \$100.00* (which is paid by the District who is sponsoring the contestant)
 - ii. *Lion District 2-S2 Contest Application,*
 - iii. *Two wallet-sized color Photographs* (head and shoulders close-up),
 - iv. *Personal Biographical Information.*
 - v. *Three Letter of Recommendation*
 - vi. *Official High School Transcript*
 - vii. *Signed Copy of Code of Conduct.*
 - viii. *Medical Power of Attorney* designating his/her Chaperone as the Primary Responsible Party and the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Chair as the Secondary Responsible Party.
- b. The sponsoring Club must make sure all documents, outlined above, are completed, have all the required signatures and are sent to the Lions District 2-S2 Contest Coordinator, post-marked no later than the **January 22, 2010 deadline.**

Contest Coordinator Contact Information

Artie Onayemi
1211 Crystal Wood
Houston, TX 77013-4917
713-299-7106
agonayemi@msn.com