

31st Annual Ishmael Essay Contest

In 1987, Dr. and Mrs. Don Ishmael established the annual Ishmael Essay Contest inviting dental and dental hygiene students to submit an essay related to dentistry. Dr. Ishmael was a distinguished dentist in Oklahoma City, and was a strong advocate of scholarship and professionalism.

The contest has been divided into two categories – Dental student and Dental hygiene student – to make the contest more equitable for both groups of students. The 1st place award in each category is \$500, the 2nd place award in each category is \$250, and the 3rd place award in each category is \$100.

ELIGIBILITY: Dental and Dental Hygiene Students.

ALL STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM SCHOLARS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN ESSAY.

TOPIC OF ESSAY: Any subject related to dentistry. The essay must be original, appropriately referenced, and ideas may be sought from faculty. It may be in the form of a research paper or an original essay on an ethical or philosophical topic in dentistry.

TITLE OF ESSAY: Maximum 70 characters including spaces.

LENGTH OF ESSAY: Minimum of six and maximum of eight pages on 8.5" X 11.0" paper in double-spaced format. Tables, graphs, photos and references are not included in the eight-page maximum.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are encouraged to use tables, graphs, or photos to illustrate your essay, but those components are not mandatory. References, tables, graphs and photos are not included in the eight-page maximum. **Submit your essay to luellen-chenoweth@ouhsc.edu by 4 PM on Friday, February 9, 2018** in the following format:

- 1) One electronic copy of your essay in Word format
- 2) One electronic title page with title of essay and author's name in Word format
- 3) One electronic title page with title of essay only – do not include author's name in Word format

FINALISTS: The names of the six finalists will be announced during Spring Break. The finalists will present their essays as oral presentations during Scientific Day on April 10, 2018.

JUDGING: Four judges from the College of Dentistry faculty will evaluate the essays and select the finalists. The selection of award winners will be based on the combined scores for the essay and the oral presentation, as described below. The first-place essays may be published in the *Oklahoma Dental Association Journal* *. **All essays will be screened using Turnitin anti-plagiarism software.**

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR ESSAY:

All essays submitted will be judged on four criteria (75% of overall score)

- Originality
- Organization
- Clarity (including grammar and spelling)
- Importance to Oral Science or Dental Practice

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR ORAL PRESENTATION: (25% of overall score)

- Evidence-Based Presentation
- Clarity and Appeal of Visual Aids
- Ability to Convey Concepts to General Audience
- Thorough Understanding of Subject and Ability to Respond to Questions
- Dignified/Professional Appearance, Demeanor, and Language
- Importance to Oral Science or Dental Practice

Submission Deadline to luellen-chenoweth@ouhsc.edu is 4 PM on February 9, 2018

* The Dean's Office will contact the students receiving the first-place prize to discuss and manage publication in the *Oklahoma Dental Association Journal*.