

FOR 2023 LEC ENTRIES

Dear Teachers, Librarians and Homeschool Educators:

Please find this year's Lincoln Essay Competition materials included, as well as a flyer which we hope you will post where all 8th graders can see it.

Having administered this contest for over 16 years now, we have learned a few tips that we'd like to pass along that will help you guide your students so that they are well-positioned to participate.

- Please make sure that every student wishing to participate has a complete packet. It is to their benefit to read through all 9 pages including the application, FAQs & Tips, and Judges Rubric. You may copy the enclosed pages for distribution. They are also available at: hildene.org/learning/lincoln_essay (where students can also find an organizational chart template created by a former winner).
- When they have completed the application form, please make sure that the writing is legible, that the student has included a correct USPS mailing address, and that the form has been signed by the student, the teacher and a parent or guardian. If you are unable to sign student application forms due to COVID restrictions, please send an email to lec@hildene.org certifying each student's compliance.
- We would advise you to have your students send in their essays at least one week in advance of the February 12 deadline, in case delivery is hampered.
- We also accept submissions via email to the following address ONLY: lec@hildene.org.
- Late submissions will **not** be accepted.

Thank you very much for encouraging your students to participate. What is our hope for them? As we say in the packet, while it is always fun to win, the reality is that most students will not win a prize. We cannot emphasize enough that it is the experience of examining a tough issue and endeavoring to articulate a well thought-out and compelling response that is the most important aspect of this competition. Developing this skill will serve them well throughout their lives. Thank you, again, for stewarding them through the process.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via my email or phone.

Yours sincerely,



Stephanie Moffett Hynds
 Programming Director
Stephanie@Hildene.org
 (802) 367-7960

Can this be used to satisfy Common Core and State Standards?

Yes. The Lincoln Essay Competition supports the following 8th Grade Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts Literacy in Writing: W.8.2.A-F; 8.4-6; 8.8-9, in History/Social Studies; RH.6-8.2, .4, .6-8; in Listening: SL.8.1A-B; 8.2; 8.3; in Language: L.8.1-6; and in Standards of Writing: WHST.6.8.2A-F; 6.8.4-6; as well as the Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities in Civics, Government and Society: H&SS.7-8:14.