

TOPIC 2022:

What gives YOU hope? Identify a challenging issue facing humanity today, whether at the local, state, national, and/or global level. Express why this issue matters to you. Investigate a scientific, legislative, technological, or other type of solution that is currently being proposed or employed to address the issue. Explain what it is and why it holds promise as part of the solution to the problem.

INSPIRATION:

"We can succeed only by concert. It is not 'can any of us imagine better?' but, 'can we all do better?' The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew."

- 1862 Second Annual Message to Congress, President Abraham Lincoln

In his speech to Congress, President Lincoln was rallying Americans to save the Union by supporting his plans on many initiatives—freeing those enslaved, being foremost among them. His impassioned plea to come together to make bold choices could as easily be asked of all people today. The purpose of this year's prompt is to invite you to examine ways in which people are "rising to the occasion" today in response to any number of challenging issues.

OPEN TO: 8th grade
students who are
residing in VERMONT.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT:

https://hildene.org/learning/lincoln_essay

Winners will receive certificates and cash prizes, as follows:

First Place Winners: \$500 each
Second Place Winners: \$400 each
Third Place Winners: \$300 each
Up to four Honorable Mentions: \$200 each

IMPORTANT DATES:

ESSAYS DUE: on or before FEBRUARY 12, 2022

AWARDS LUNCHEON: May 15, 2022

QUESTIONS?

Stephanie Moffett Hynds, Programming Director: 802.367.7960, stephanie@hildene.org

Your School Contact:
