

NASA Dryden Flight Research Center's 60th Anniversary



Poster and Essay Contest

Contest Information

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, NASA education office is sponsoring a poster and essay contest for students in grades 5-8 and 9-12. Participants will need to select a research project, or a person who made a significant contribution, or a technical advancement in NASA Dryden Flight Research Center's history. Then write an essay and design a poster about this topic. Sample topics can be found at <http://www.dfrc.nasa.gov/history>.

Contest Rules

All essays and posters must be delivered on Tuesday, October 24, or Wednesday, October 25, to the NASA Aerospace Gallery, 38256 Sierra Highway, Palmdale, between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. No late entries will be accepted.

Essay Guidelines

Essays for 9th - 12th grade should be a minimum 1500 words, typed/word processed, not to exceed 1750 words.

Essays for 5th - 8th grade should be a minimum 1000 words, typed/word processed, not to exceed 1200 words.

Essays will be judged on the following categories:

Creativity of Topic Selection Focus on Selected Topic Language/Grammar
and Writing Skills

Essays must include

- Cover Page including; name, grade, home address, phone number, word count, teacher, school, and school phone number.
- Why the topic was selected.
- 5th – 8th Grade Theme: Explain how the topic has had an impact on society.
- 9th – 12th Grade Theme: Explain what technological advancements resulted from the subject matter and how those advancements have contributed to society.

Poster Guidelines

Posters can be a drawing, painting, collage or any combination of these or other art forms. Artwork is only limited by the student's imagination. The posters should be on a standard foam board size of 20 x 30.

Artwork may be flat or 3 dimensional, but all items must be securely attached to the foam poster board. Posters will be judged on the following categories:

Creativity

Focus on Selected Topic

Neatness

Originality

Contest Awards

First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for both 5th -8th and 9-12th grade levels.

First Place Prize - 1 NASA Flight Jacket w/ personalized name tags, 1 Mahogany painted NASA aircraft model, and 1 NASA aircraft picture autographed by a NASA Research Pilot.

Second Place Prize - 1 NASA Flight Jacket w/ personalized name tags and 1 NASA aircraft picture autographed by a NASA Research Pilot.

Third Place Prize - 1 Mahogany painted NASA aircraft model and 1 NASA aircraft picture autographed by a NASA Research Pilot.

Contest Timeline

Oct. 24-25 2006

Essays and Posters should be submitted on October 24 or 25 at the Aerospace Gallery located at 38256 Sierra Hwy, Suite A, Palmdale, California, between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm.

Oct. 26-27 2006

October 26 and 27 a committee from the Aero Institute/NASA Office of Academic Investments will screen all essays and posters. The top five posters/essays from each grade groups will be selected to be on display at the NASA Dryden Annual Employee Chili Cook-off. All entries/participants will receive a certificate for participating.

Oct. 31, 2006

First, second and third place winners will be determined by employees at the NASA Dryden Annual Employee Chili Cook-off.

Nov. 3, 2006

The Office of Academic Investments will announce winners. They will notify the winners and their teachers by phone.

Nov. 4, 2006

The six winning essay/posters will be on display in the entrance of NASA Dryden 60th Anniversary Gala Celebration at the Essex House Convention Center.

Nov. 7, 2006

A congratulatory ceremony will be held to publicly announce the winners and award prizes at 6:30 p.m. in the NASA Aerospace Gallery.

Contact Information

For further questions contact Kimberly Irizarry 661.276.3563

Essay Scoring Rubric

Score	
6 Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thorough, well-organized beginning, middle, and ending (conclusion) - Beginning (introduction) uniquely captures reader's interest - Middle (body) has specific and illustrative supporting details - Ending (conclusion) is an integral part of the writing and leaves a powerful or lasting impression - Writer's voice apparent in tone, sentence structure and word choice - Almost no errors in mechanics, spelling and usage
5 Commendable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly focused, well organized beginning, middle, and ending - Beginning (introduction) creatively captures reader's interest - Middle (body) contains a variety of relevant supporting details - - Ending (conclusion) is an integral part of the writing and provides strong closure - Precision and variety in sentence structure and word choice - Few errors in mechanics, spelling and usage
4 Proficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coherent, focused, well-organized beginning, middle and ending - Beginning (introduction) captures reader's interest - Middle (body) contains appropriate, supporting details - Ending (conclusion) is an integral part of the writing - Exhibits appropriate sentence variety and word choice most of the time - Some errors in usage, mechanics, and spelling, but meaning is not obscured
3 Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inconsistent organization of beginning, middle and end (conclusion) - Beginning (introduction) <u>may</u> capture the reader's interest - - Middle (body) contains supporting details which may not be sufficiently developed - Ending (conclusion) is weak or does not adequately provide closure - Limited sentence variety and word choice - - Several errors in word usage, mechanics, and spelling that may obscure meaning
2 Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited organization of beginning, middle and end (conclusion) - Beginning (introduction) does not capture the reader's interest - Middle (body) contains few supporting details which are not developed - Ending (conclusion) is absent or does not provide closure - Lacks sentence variety and word choice - Frequent errors in mechanics, usage, and spelling that obscure meaning
1 Minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Little or no organization - No beginning - Middle (body) contains no supporting detail - No ending - No sentence variety and minimal word choice - Numerous errors which obscure meaning