

2019-2020 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Contest Rules and Guidelines

Paper Length: **LEVEL 1** Not less than 500 words or more than 1,000 words
LEVEL 2 Not less than 750 words or more than 1,500 words

Writing Style Requirements:

1. Acknowledge all resources used.
2. Plagiarism involves two kinds of wrongs. Using another person's ideas, information or expressions without acknowledging that person's work constitutes intellectual theft. Passing off another person's ideas, information or expressions as your own to get a better grade, or gain some advantage, constitutes fraud.
3. The paper is to use double line spacing throughout, including the title page, the body of the paper, quotations, and sources used on the page.
4. The paper is to be completed using a word processor preferably; however, a legibly hand-written paper is acceptable.
5. The paper is to be printed or hand-written on white paper, single sided only.
6. The letter font of 12 point is to be used if using a word processor. If the paper is hand-written please use double line space.
7. References used are to be acknowledged.
8. Sources used are to be listed on a separate page, after the body of the paper.
9. A Title Page is to be provided, using double line spacing and must provide the **Student's Name, Address** (home, school or parish) **City, State, Zip Code, Phone Number, School Name, Grade Level and number of words in paper** (exclusive of the Works Cited/References section.)
10. Page numbers are to be placed in the upper right hand corner at one-half (1/2) inch from the top right margin; the student's name should **not** appear in front of the page number.
11. Page numbers should be consecutive beginning with the first page of the body of the paper through the Works Cited/References section of the paper.
12. Running Heads are not to be used.
13. Drawings, maps, charts, pictures, etc. are not to be included in the title page or the body of the paper.
14. Wikipedia is not to be used as a reference in this contest.
15. We will accept entries written about any person, event, or structure that has to do with the LAOH in America during the past 125 years. Students can search *Chronicling America* and *Newspapers.com*. Sample topics are: Nuns of the Battlefield, Ellen Ryan Jolly, Mary McWhorter etc.

2019-2020 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria:

Each paper will be evaluated in these categories with a maximum number of points allocated for each category:

Comprehension-30 points	Organization-20 points	Conclusion-15 points
Creativity-20 points	Writing-15 points	

Please refer to the Judging Criteria sheet for assistance in learning how the judges will evaluate the paper. The suggested questions are not limiting criteria for the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating the student paper. The student's title page will be removed and the paper will be assigned a number prior to be given to the judges so as to have all papers evaluated without prejudice. All papers submitted to the judges are to be evaluated without any markings. Papers will be disqualified if there are markings. The Irish Historian at each level will determine the minimum score to be achieved for the paper to be forwarded to the next level within the LAOH.