KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON STATE JURISDICTION
2013-2014 CULTURE OF LIFE CONTEST GUIDELINES

The Knights of Columbus Essay, Poster and Picture Contest is open to all Catholic students in British Columbia and the Yukon Territory in public, private or parochial schools in grades one (1) through twelve (12) during the current school year.

All entrants will be expected to complete their work independently with no assistance from anyone and be based on reason, scholarly research and creativity.

Essays, posters and pictures must reflect the assigned theme and topic, and be submitted by the published deadline to the official designated on the poster. Entries that are not postmarked by the deadline date in regular mail will not receive any further consideration.

Entrants will be marked on the following grid by the State Culture of Life Directors, their designates or the local Knights of Columbus councils (chaired by the local Culture of Life Directors) who choose to participate in the contest;

The student must complete the official application form and have his or her parents or guardian sign the application form indicating agreement with the student's entry. Parents or Guardians of the entrants must also indicate which Parish they attend.

The student's name should appear only on the official 2013-2014 Knights of Columbus Contest entry form which should be stapled securely to the essay or picture. In the case of the essay, the student's name should also appear on the first page only.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned. Winning contestants agree to have their work displayed/published in any Knights or other media publications.

Essays:

Essays will be judged on a 100-point scoring system.

1. Overall Impression (20 Points): How well does the essay describe a Culture of Life topic?
2. Content (30 Points): How thoroughly and clearly is the topic examined?
3. Style (30 Points): Does the essay show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a positive themed, logical and compelling style?
4. Grammar (20 Points): How well is the essay written with respect to sentence structure, paragraph construction and spelling?

Essays for High School level students must be between 1000 and 1500 words long (four to five complete pages). Essays for Junior High School level students must be between 500 and 750 words long (two to three complete pages).

Essays, posters and pictures must be the student's original work. Work that is plagiarized or copied from other sources will be disqualified.

Essays must be typed on 8 1/2" X 11" (inch) paper, one sided, double spaced, Times New Roman Font 12 pitch font and with one-inch margins on the paper. The student's name should be on the page one (1). The entry form must be stapled to the essay in the top left corner of the entry form and essay.

Posters and Pictures:

Posters and Pictures will be judged on a 100-point scoring system.

1. Overall Impression (20 Points): How well does the poster or picture describe a Celebration of Life topic?
2. Content (30 Points): How thoroughly and clearly is the topic examined or illustrated?
3. Style (30 Points): Does the poster or picture show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a logical and compelling style?
4. Aesthetics (20 Points): Does the poster or picture use positive imagery, have a good slogan and good use of colors to convey the selected theme?

Posters and pictures can be on any type of paper up to a size of 11" X 17" (inches).

Entrants in the poster category (Grade 5-6) need to ensure they have a slogan incorporated into the artwork in order to receive full marks for the poster entry. Otherwise, they will lose 10 points out of the 30 possible points in the Content score grid and 10 points out of the 20 possible points in the Aesthetics score grid/rubric.

The student's name should appear on the back of the poster or picture. The entry form must be stapled to the poster or picture in the top left corner of the entry form and essay. If explanation is needed as to what the submission is meant to express, this can be noted in a short handwritten note on the back of the poster or picture.

All marks by the State and local participating Council judges are final. They are not required to explain or justify their marking to the participants. Local Council judges may be required to clarify their results to the State Culture of Life Directors.

Entries will not be returned to participants nor will any explanation on the participant's performance. Results for the winning entries will be posted on the Knights of Columbus State Web site.

Please check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Knights of Columbus BC and Yukon State Jurisdiction Web Site if there is something that is not clear in this Contest Guideline document. The web site address is http://kofcbc.org/programs/life/culture-of-life-contest

Entries will be mailed to the State Culture of Life Directors via ground mail before or postmarked on the closing date at the following address;

Mr. and Mrs. D. McGregor
Culture of Life Directors
Knights of Columbus
BC-Yukon State Jurisdiction
PO Box 1058, RPO Vedder Crossing,
Chilliwack, BC
V2R-3N7

Parents or the entrants can direct questions to the Culture of Life Directors at the following e-mail address;

cultureoflife.kofc@gmail.com