



RUMSON ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Submission Guidelines, Rules, and Requirements:

Essay Guidelines: *Deadline - Thursday March 1st, 2024.*

Essay Size:

- 1) Essays of 500-750 words should be e-mailed to: IrishEssay@rumsonstpatricksdayparade.org
- 2) Info will be listed on parade and HS websites. Flyers will be passed out at schools and area businesses.

Awards:

- 1st Place Essay Prize: \$750.00 and Plaque
2nd Place Essay Price: \$500.00 and Plaque
3rd Place Essay Price: \$250.00 and Plaque

Eligibility:

- 1) ALL students attending these high schools: RFH, RBC, CBA, and Trinity can enter an essay.
- 2) ALL Rumson and Fair Haven residents who are HS students attending other private HS schools.
* Student authors submitting Irish essays do not have to be of Irish descent.

Submission:

- 1) All E-essay pdf submissions should be at least 500 words but not more than 750 words.
- 2) Students submitting E-essays can also add an additional personal sub-title along with the official Irish Essay Topic and -
 - should adhere to the 500–750-word limit;
 - writing should address the essay topic only with no variation,
 - and list their sources and footnotes.
- 3) E-essay submission should be in **pdf form only** and sent to: Irishessay@rumsonstpatricksdayparade.org
(Students with no WORD, PDF, or email capabilities - hard copy submissions will be considered on case-by-case basis)
- 4) **MANDATORY** - E-essay submissions should include a **cover page** that includes:
 - The Essay Topic (and author's personal sub-title below it),
 - The Author's Name, Date, High School Attending, Grade, Home Address, Contact Cell, and Email Address.

-NOTE: After cover page, each of the following essay pages containing the actual essay must be numbered and reveal only the essay topic and the writer's own sub-title at the top of each page **BUT not their name or contact info** to maintain anonymity for judging purposes.

The Michael J. Larkin Memorial Irish Essay Competition is committed to promoting Irish history, culture, tradition, and its influence by offering a competitive outlet for students to write about its effects with creativity, heart, and passion while further defining the connection between Ireland and America.

<https://www.rumsonstpatricksdayparade.org/>



RUMSON ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Judging Panel and Grading Procedure:

- 1) The Irish Essay Judging Panel will have 1 at large judge, 4 HS judges representing each participating high school with an admin judge holding no judging rights who will oversee the judging and ranking procedures.
- 2) Essay Judging and Ranking Procedure:
 - a) The admin judge will check the essay email daily for submissions, gather and conceal the essay author's name by either eliminating the cover page or blocking out writer's name (before emailing to the rest of the judges), add a number/code that corresponds to the student's name (so judges do not know who the author is).
 - b) Next, the Admin judge will email all essay submissions to each judge who will then score their top 5 favorite essays on a ranking scale from 5pts to 1pt with 5pts being their favorite.
 - c) Then, after ranking the essays, judges will email only their 5 favorite essays with corresponding scores (5pts to 1pt) back to the admin judge.
 - d) The admin judge, after receiving back the 5 best essays chosen by each judge with their assigned number/code (hidden author name), then tallies up the scores of each essay and takes the 3 with the highest total of number of points to determine who the 3 winners are. The essay with the most points will be awarded 1st prize! The 2nd highest score wins 2nd place!! And, the 3rd highest score wins 3rd place!!!
 - e) The admin judge then matches the assigned number/code to reveal the names of the winners!
- 3) The admin judge then presents the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winning essay authors to the RSP Parade Committee where they will announce publicly to the winning authors, to social E-media and print, the parade website, etc. on Thursday 7:30pm, March 7th at the Irish Soda Bread Contest hosted by the Rumson Oceanic Free Library.
- 4) All Essay and Poster winners will be invited to march in the Rumson St Patrick's Parade holding a banner or in a group to be determined. All Essay and Poster entries are welcomed to march in a group on parade day.
- 5) **The Deadline is Thursday March 1st 2024 and as of now there will be no deadline extension.**

Please note essay submission guidelines, rules, and regulations on the parade website. Email essay submissions are now being accepted and until the **Hard Deadline - Thursday March 1st, 2024.** to:

irishessay@rumsonstpatricksdayparade.org

The Rumson St Patrick's Day Parade Committee (RSPDC) and the MJL Memorial Irish Essay Competition would like to thank all participants and judges this year. May the Luck of the Irish be with you!!! Slainte'!

***Winners will be announced on the evening of Thursday, March 7th at the Rumson Oceanic Free Library.**

Essay competition topic, rules, regulations, and essay winners will also be posted on our Facebook and parade website. All participants are invited to the Rumson Oceanic Free Library on March 7th and march in the parade on Sunday, March 10th.

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