

**Definitions and Guidelines for  
THE BIRD DOG FOUNDATION, INC.  
ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR ESSAY CONTEST**

The Bird Dog Foundation, Inc. has established a Scholarship Fund to promote interest in wildlife conservation and related subjects. An annual College Scholarship Essay Contest sponsored by the Bird Dog Foundation, Inc. has been in effect for several years now. This contest was created in the hopes that it would enhance scholarly training and education in wildlife and wildlife conservation as well as give financial aid for tuition the college-bound student.

Strict adherence to the contest rules is required for a winning qualification. Attention to the following instructions is essential as well. It is highly recommended that instructors review a student's work *prior to submission* in order to guide the student towards presenting the best essay possible. Please remind your students to check for grammatical correctness and to follow the instructions for the contest.

A complete list of the **contest rules, guidelines, the annual deadline** and the list of allowable **essay topics** are attached.

Students are encouraged to use the William F. Brown Memorial Library for research for their essays. This library is located within the National Bird Dog Museum in Grand Junction, Tennessee and is open during business hours of: Tuesday through Fridays: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Saturdays: 10:00a.m.through 4:00 p.m. and Sundays: 1:00 p.m. through 4:00 p.m. The Museum is closed on Mondays.

**ESSAY CONTEST RULES, INSTRUCTIONS & JUDGING INFORMATION**

- **Only U.S. citizen, high school seniors (12<sup>th</sup> grade) who reside in either Tennessee, Arkansas or Mississippi and who are planning to attend an accredited institution of higher education are eligible to enter this contest.** Any 12<sup>th</sup> grade level student from a public, private, CDC, Gateway Program or home school is eligible to enter.
- **NOT eligible to enter contest if one is an employee or official with The Bird Dog Foundation, Inc. or a relative of any employee or official with the Foundation.**
- An essay of **900 to 1,000 words** must be written on a topic selected from the attached list and **submitted by the annual deadline of by or before midnight of April 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- Selected themes should be developed from a **positive constructive perspective.** The student may want to consider a personal emphasis to the essay, which would be very helpful.
- A minimum of **five sources** is required for a **Bibliography which uses College guidelines and Modern Language Association.** **Web sites may be used, but a minimum of three of the cited sources must be books or periodicals.** If a periodical is cited, a student must include the issue number, volume number and/or publication date for identification. (Citations throughout the body of the essay ***should be numbered only*** and then the corresponding reference on the Bibliography page should be numbered and the reference cited in full there. No titles should be listed in the body of the essay-only at the end on the Bibliography page).
- Essays should be **typed and double spaced.** (It is recommended that appropriate font sizes and styles be used for example "Arial" or "Times New Roman" with font sizes no larger than 12 or 14.
- **A cover sheet must accompany the essay and include: the title of the essay, the student's name and complete home mailing address, home telephone number including the area code, e-mail address (if available), the name and address of the student's High School, and the date the essay was created.**

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-Continued-

- **NEW DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:** Students must submit their original essays to the Bird Dog Foundation to the attention of the Education Coordinator.  
**The annual deadline for submissions is by or before midnight of April the 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Essays may be dropped off in person or mailed or shipped, E-mailed or faxed. If mailed, all essays MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>.**
- No submitted essays will be returned to the students.
- No essay submitted to this contest may be submitted to another organization for contest purposes.
- An independent, outside panel of judge(s) selected by the Bird Dog Foundation, Inc. will determine the final winner.
- Finalists will be judged by the following criteria: **quality and suitability of content, grammar, originality, depth of research, composition skills and adherence to the contest submission instructions.**
- The **First Place** winner will receive a one-time, **\$1500.00 tuition scholarship** award made payable only to an accredited college, university, or other bona fide institution of his or her choice, upon receipt of proof of registration/enrollment at that institution. The **Second Place** Winner will receive a **\$1,000.00 scholarship** award which is payable to an institution under the same conditions set forth for the First Place winner.
- The annual award ceremony for the winner(s) will be announced after the judging is completed.
- A copy of the First Place winning essay, the student's name and high school photo may be considered for publication in a national magazine and the student's name and possibly their photo will be submitted to local newspapers for publication as announcements. The student submitting the essay agrees to give The Bird Dog Foundation, Inc. full rights to have the work submitted for publication and used for publication and or promotional purposes, etc. as they deem fit.

**CONTACT INFORMATION for the Bird Dog Foundation's Education Coordinator**  
**OFFICE TELEPHONE: (731) 764-2058      OFFICE FAX: (731) 764-3004**

**ENTRIES MAY BE MAILED TO:**

THE BIRD DOG FOUNDATION, INC.  
ATTN: EDUCATION COORDINATOR  
P.O. BOX 774  
505 W. HWY 57  
GRAND JUNCTION, TN 38039

**E-MAIL: [library@birddogfoundation.com](mailto:library@birddogfoundation.com)**  
**HOURS: Tuesdays through Fridays: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**  
**Saturdays: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**  
**Sundays: 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

Essay Contest Rules are also available to download from  
The Bird Dog Foundation's website:

**[www.birddogfoundation.com](http://www.birddogfoundation.com)**

under the "Art & Essay Contest" section of the website.

*(Suggested BDF Essay Contest COVER SHEET FORMAT)*

**Title of Essay**

**Student Name**

**The student must include their complete contact information which includes:  
home mailing address with zip code,  
telephone contact number(s) and  
e-mail address, if available**

**Name & Address of School  
the student attends**

**Date**

**Suggested Topics for**  
**The Bird Dog Foundation Scholarship Essay**

Agroforestry  
Ames Plantation  
Animal Ethics  
Biodiversity-The Earth's Treasure House  
Conservation of Natural Resources  
Ecology , the Environment & Environmental Education  
Ecotourism  
Endangered Species  
Fire's Role in the Ecosystem  
Forest Stewardship  
Forest Wildlife  
Gamebird Predators  
Habitat Preservation  
Hunter's Ethics and Safety  
The Hunting Dog  
Natural Resources: Use and Management  
Oology-The study of eggs  
Outdoor Heritage  
Pollution  
Preservation vs. Conservation of Wildlife  
Preserving Diversity in Nature  
Public Forest Use  
Recycling  
The Relationship of Man and Dog  
River Ethics  
The Role of Hunters and Fisherman in Conservation  
Silviculture: The art of managing and tending a forest  
Water Resources and Stewardship  
Wilderness Access  
Wildlife and Natural Resources Management  
Wildlife and the Law  
Wildlife Habitat and Propagation