

ESSAY CONTEST FOR GOSHEN STUDENTS
GRADES 7-8 and 9-12
Submission Deadline: March 21, 2022 at 5 p.m.
Community Celebration and Award Ceremony: Council
Chambers on April 12, 6:30-7:30

The Community Relations Commission (CRC) of Goshen, is pleased to announce an essay contest to challenge our future leaders to rethink the value of effective communication amongst members of our diverse community.

The CRC serves Goshen by developing programs and policies that aim for a city without racism or discrimination of any kind, and building capacity for creative problem solving, resiliency, understanding and compassion among the diverse people in our community.

CRC Principles:

- Honor the dignity of each person and each person's rights
- Listen to the diverse voices of the community
- Cultivate constructive communication and engagement
- Value honesty, truthfulness, and integrity
- Promote a community that is safe for all
- Acknowledge and accept the challenge of change—that it may have both positive and negative consequences
- Promote the acceptance of differences
- Promote equality and freedom from discrimination

Eligibility and Instructions for Essay:

- 1) All students grades 7-12 with Goshen residential addresses are eligible to submit essays.
- 2) Length:
 - a. For grades 7-8, 300-600 words
 - b. For grades 9-12, 500-800 words
- 3) Select one of the above Principles to serve as the focus of your essay.
- 4) Consider the following questions:
 - a. What are examples of how you have seen the effect of this principle in your own life?
 - b. Why is it valuable and/or why does it resonate with you?
 - c. How do you think a wider application of this principle can serve or change our Goshen community?

Process and Criteria of Evaluation:

A committee of 5 representatives of the Goshen community will be reading the essays. The following criteria will guide their assessments and decisions:

- Does the essay adhere to the instructions given?
- Does the essay incorporate description of personal experiences related to the chosen principle?
- Does the essay demonstrate insight/understanding of the principle?
- Does the essay imagine how the principle can be applied to better serve Goshen's needs?
- Does the essay demonstrate imagination, insight, clarity, cohesion and relevance?

Awards: First, Second and Third prizes will be awarded in each of the two different grade groups.

1st Prize \$150

2nd Prize \$100

3rd Prize \$50

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Essays should be submitted as a PDF¹ with the accompanying form to:

AJDelgadillo@GoshenCity.com

Subject: CRC Principle Essay

¹ To save a Google Doc as a PDF click File/ Download and select PDF

To save a Word file as a PDF click File/Save as/ and select PDF from the drop-down list of "Save as Type"