



# 2011 World Citizen Essay Contest



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On the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Affairs Council and the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World's Fair, the World Affairs Council is embarking on a two-year partnership with the Seattle Center Foundation, and is proud to announce the 13th Annual World Citizen Essay Contest. This year, youth in grades 3-12 are encouraged to ponder the following question:

Looking back over the last 60 years, please identify a Puget Sound-based innovation that has left its mark around the world. Explain why and how this innovation had an impact beyond the United States. (This impact can be related to the arts, sports, music, popular culture, technology, civic action, global health, education, manufacturing, etc.) Essays will be judged based on the strength and merit of their argument, organizational structure, and attention to detail (grammar, spelling, conventions). Students are encouraged to be creative in selecting their topics.

## Contest Rules

### ESSAY LENGTH:

1,000 words or less, typed and double-spaced.

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

**March 28, 2011:** All essays must be submitted electronically as a word document to [EssayContest@world-affairs.org](mailto:EssayContest@world-affairs.org).

**Do not include your name or school on your essay.**

**\*\*\*Accompanying all submitted essays must be a completed cover form.** When submitting your cover form and essay, please indicate "Essay Contest Submission" in the email subject line.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Washington state students in grades 3-12.

### AWARDS:

Awards will be granted in each of the three categories: grades 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Winners will be recognized at a celebratory Spring event.

**First prize:** \$200

**Second prize:** \$100

**Third prize:** \$50

With many thanks to the Seattle Center Foundation, all 9 prize winners will also receive a set of 4 admission tickets to the Pacific Science Center and Seattle Center Foundation t-shirts

### JUDGING:

A panel of judges will select the winning essays. They will use the criteria established on the rubric to evaluate essays according to three equally-weighted categories: content, word choice/voice, and organization/conventions. Please see the judging rubric for detailed information.

### JUDGING CRITERIA:

#### Content

Thorough research of an innovation and its impact is necessary to allow you to provide strong factual evidence to support your argument.

#### Word Choice/Voice

Precise, creative word usage should keep the reader engaged without distracting from the essay's core argument. Your essay must provide your clear and original vision and you must provide the reader with the sense that you care deeply about the topics addressed.

#### Organization/Conventions

The mechanical correctness of the piece shows great care and attention to detail. Essay is well structured and includes a bibliography and/or footnotes/endnotes.

**\*\*\*For more detailed judging criteria, see judging rubric. It is suggested that you use the rubric to judge your essay before making final revisions.**

**NOTE:** English language learners are encouraged to participate.

*This year the World Affairs Council, in partnership with the Seattle Center Foundation, hosts the 13th annual World Citizen Essay Contest for Washington State students in third through twelfth grades. The goal of the World Citizen Essay Contest is to promote discussion among students, teachers, families, and community members about the ways that individuals can effect positive change in the global community. This coincides with the World Affairs Council's mission to promote dialogue and debate about international issues of critical importance to our region and world.*