



The Friends of James A. Garfield

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

2015 NEOEA/LFA Garfield Symposium Undergraduate History Essay Contest - Please Announce & Post

This year marks the second annual James A. Garfield Symposium, and the Symposium Committee, in conjunction with the Lakeland Faculty Association (LFA), is proud to announce the first annual NEOEA/LFA Garfield Symposium Undergraduate History Essay Contest. The Garfield Symposium was organized in 2014 to make a connection amongst Garfield-related Sites and organizations, focusing on Northeast Ohio. These sites include the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, Hiram College, Lakeland Community College, the City of Mentor, the Bedford Historical Society, and other local historical organizations. Additionally, the Symposium seeks to link students (high school, undergraduate, graduate, etc.), teachers, professors, and researchers to the life and times of James A. Garfield, the Garfield Family, and Garfield's Administration.

This contest targets students from colleges across Ohio, offering them the opportunity to submit essays on any topic pertaining to the life and/or career of James A. Garfield. The competition seeks to draw students with a wide range of interests in history, law, political science, social science, military studies, and general research writing. The essay may cover any aspect of the life of James A. Garfield, including his military and political careers and his private life. The award may be used for any educational purpose, including but not limited to: tuition, room/board, books, transportation costs, etc.

All entrants should have a faculty sponsor. Sponsors should be willing to help students choose topics, research source materials, and edit.

Funding for the award was supplied by a generous grant from the Northeast Ohio Education Association (NEOEA) and the Lakeland Faculty Association. Symposium sponsors include the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, Friends of James A. Garfield National Historic Site, James A. Garfield Center for the Study of the American Presidency at Hiram College, the Lakeland Foundation, and Lakeland Community College.

TOPIC: *James A. Garfield: A Life*

Eligibility: Any undergraduate student attending a community college or four-year college in Ohio who will be returning to continue studies in the spring 2016 semester. Students graduating or leaving college for any reason after the fall 2015 semester are not eligible.

Entry Deadline: Monday, October 12, 2015 at 4:00 pm EST.

Essay Award:

- **\$250**

The winner will be announced and the prize awarded at the James A. Garfield Symposium at Lakeland Community College, Saturday, November 7, 2015. The essay winner and their faculty sponsor will receive free admission to the Symposium.

Rules for Entrants:

- You must be an undergraduate student at an accredited institution of higher learning at any college in Ohio.
- Your essay must include a cover sheet with the following information:
 - paper title
 - your name, email, and physical address
 - your faculty director's name, title, email, and physical address
- Your essay must be between 3200-4500 words (roughly 8-10 pages), double-spaced, 12-point font (preferably Times-New Roman).
- Your essay must include at least four primary and four secondary sources, footnotes or endnotes in Chicago Manual style, and a bibliography (the bibliography DOES NOT count toward the word total).
- Submit only one entry per student. All entries must be done in Microsoft Word format. Entries submitted after 4:00 pm on October 12 will not be accepted.
- Email your essay as an attachment by October 12, 2015, to **mhiner@lakelandcc.edu** with "2015 Garfield Essay Contest" as the subject line.
- Your essay must be your work alone. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
- Decisions of the judges are final.
- The winner will be notified via e-mail by November 2, 2015.
- Contest winner agrees to allow the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, Friends of James A. Garfield National Historic Site, James A. Garfield Center for the Study of the American Presidency at Hiram College, the Lakeland Foundation, and/or Lakeland Community College to publish their name.
- The winner will be responsible for any federal, state, or local taxes.

Judging:

The Garfield Symposium selects the judges, who evaluate entries in a fair and unbiased process based on composition, depth of research, and quality of analysis. To ensure anonymity, essay cover sheets are removed so that writers' names are unknown to the judges until after the essays have been ranked and contest results finalized. Judges will utilize plagiarism detection software.