

WILLIAM SIMPSON ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 446

Park Forest, IL 60466

Telephone: (708) 747-6542

**WSESF.ORG**

**ESSAY APPLICATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2022**

1. NAME: \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
3. CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
4. TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_
5. AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_
6. HIGH SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_
7. DATE OF GRADUATION: \_\_\_\_\_
8. COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_
9. DATE OF ADMISSION TO COLLEGE: \_\_\_\_\_
10. MAJOR OR FIELD OF CONCENTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_
11. LIST OTHER GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS OR AWARDS: \_\_\_\_\_
12. ESSAY TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION:**

I certify that the information which I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false or misleading statement may constitute grounds for the automatic rejection of my application or withdrawal of any offer of a scholarship award. Essays submitted without an accompanying application will not be considered.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Your original application must be completed and submitted to the William Simpson Essay Scholarship Foundation and postmarked on or before Saturday, April 30, 2022. You may submit your application and accompanying essay electronically via email to [wsefsf@comcast.net](mailto:wsefsf@comcast.net). Please contact Victor Blackwell at (708) 359-0221 or Brenda Yarborough at (708) 720-0893 for additional information or e-mail us at [wsefsf@comcast.net](mailto:wsefsf@comcast.net).

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262 Main Street  
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**SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND CRITERIA**

1. Contestants must be an African American Junior or Senior in High School attending one of the twelve designated far South Suburban High Schools, which include: Bloom, Bloom Trail, Crete Monee, Hillcrest, Homewood-Flossmoor, Marian Catholic, Rich Central, and South, Southland College Prep., Thornton, Thornridge, and Thornwood. **An Essay Application must be completed and signed by the student.**
2. Essays are required to be original works, and must have been written within 6 months of the due date.
3. The deadline for receipt of all essays is **Saturday, April 30, 2022**. If an essay is mailed and postmarked on that date or before, it will be accepted.
4. The cover page of the essay must include the: **contestant's name, title of the essay, and date written, each page thereafter must be numbered.** Contestants must submit three copies of their essay and sign the last page of each copy.
5. The essay must consist of a **minimum of (8) eight written pages** of text, which does not include the cover page, and a **maximum of (12) twelve pages, all double spaced** using Times Roman or Courier 12 or 14 font. A Bibliography is required and does not count toward the minimum page requirement.
6. Contestants must be prepared to answer questions if asked by one or more judges.
7. The Application and the Essay should be sent electronically to [WSESF@Comcast.net](mailto:WSESF@Comcast.net) or mailed to: WSESF, Essay Competition, 262 Main St., Park Forest, IL 60466 and if mailed, post marked on or before **Saturday, April 30, 2022**.

**Essays are judged by the following criteria:**

1. Creativity and literary expression of subject matter
2. Grammar usage, spelling, and overall organization
3. Degree of complexity of topic and contestant's knowledge of subject matter
4. Credibility of cited resources and research materials
5. Quantity of supporting documentation using Footnotes & Bibliography

An essay is an analytic or interpretative literary composition usually dealing with its subject from a limited or personal point of view.

An original essay is the **written expression of its author's opinion**. At best, an essay blends fact with imagination, knowledge, and emotions, never giving itself wholly to one or the other. The essay's purpose is always the same: **to express an opinion about a specific subject**. Therefore, the writer should feel strongly about the topic; one that he or she has experienced, witnessed, or has a serious opinion or interest in the subject.

# **WILLIAM SIMPSON ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.**



## **2022 SUGGESTED ESSAY TOPICS**

1. What is the legacy of President Barack Obama's administration?
2. What were the differences and similarities between Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Marcus Garvey?
3. Write about the importance of Kamala Harris as the first female and African-American Vice President of the United States.
4. What individual African-American author and book most influenced your personal life?
5. What impact has Covid-19 had on the black community?
6. What are the best college majors and minors for black college students, and why?
7. Describe the impact of Black Lives Matter on America.
8. Which black elected official in America had the most impact on advancing civil rights?
9. What is your opinion on Critical Race Theory and its relation to American History?
10. What is the story of Black Wall Street and the consequences of its destruction?
11. What is the legacy of Nelson Mandela?
12. What is the Importance of Reparation and what impact would it have on the African-American Community?
13. How did Stacey Abrams change the political landscape of the state of Georgia?
14. What is the Importance of voting in the 2022 mid-term election?
15. What is your opinion on the phenomenon called Cancel Culture?



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FOUNDATION

2022 List of Participating Schools in South Suburbs

Bloom High School  
Bloom Trail High School  
Bremen High School  
Crete High School  
Eisenhower High School  
Hillcrest High School  
Homewood-Flossmoor High School  
Marian Catholic High School  
Rich Central High School  
Rich South High School  
Southland College Prep Charter High School  
Thornridge High School  
Thornton High School  
Thornwood High School