



December 13, 2018

TO: *Laws of Life* School Contacts

FR: Mikie Stroh, Coordinator of Social Studies and Character Education

It is my pleasure to announce the semi-finalists in the Elementary, Middle and High School Divisions of this year's *Laws of Life* Character Education Essay/Speech Contest. The following students represent the high scores for the essay portion of the *Laws of Life* competition and will give their speeches on January 9, 2019 at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administration Building beginning at 8 a.m.:

Division	Student Name	School	Teacher Name
Elementary School	John Allen	Corkscrew Elementary	Ms. D’Nai Bullen
Elementary School	Lila Biasi	Pelican Marsh Elementary	Ms. Segal White
Elementary School	Victoria Birmingham	Big Cypress Elementary	Ms. Kelly Runyon
Elementary School	Aurora Dalziel	Lely Elementary	Mr. Joseph Boschelli
Elementary School	Chelsea Guttman	Vineyards Elementary	Ms. Krista Fusco
Elementary School	Kayleigh Kemmish	Tommie Barfield	Ms. Alexa Macy
Elementary School	Eliza Leslie	Sea Gate Elementary	Ms. Lynn Conroy
Elementary School	Todd Malick-Beltran	Pelican Marsh Elementary	Ms. Segal White
Elementary School	Arya Rajaram	Pelican Marsh Elementary	Ms. Segal White
Elementary School	Tyson Singletary	Vineyards Elementary	Ms. Massie Pantaleon
Elementary School	Maurilio Solano	Osceola Elementary	Ms. Annette Castor
Middle School	Sofie Aspegren	Seacrest Country Day School	Dr. Mary Zoe Bowden
Middle School	Joanne Augustin	Manatee Middle School	Ms. Liz Garcia
Middle School	Ella Brinkhoff	Oakridge Middle School	Ms. Cindy St. John
Middle School	Kelly Guerrero-Flores	Golden Gate Middle School	Ms. Gail Pirics
Middle School	Abigail Kozlow	Pine Ridge Middle School	Ms. Judy Cosco
Middle School	Hannah LeBoeuf	Pine Ridge Middle School	Ms. Nancy Pylant
Middle School	Kiersten Lehman	North Naples Middle	Mr. Sean Carter
Middle School	Ammie Moriarty	Marco Island Charter School	Ms. Jerra Mining
Middle School	Alejandra Ramos	Manatee Middle School	Ms. Liz Garcia
Middle School	Sabine Rivera	East Naples Middle School	Ms. Vivienne Jacobs



The following students represent the high scores for the essay portion of the *Laws of Life* competition and will give their speeches on January 10th, 2018 at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administration Building beginning at 8 a.m.:

Division	Student Name	School	Teacher Name
High School 9-10	Paula Franco	Gulf Coast High School	Ms. Kelly Stephens
High School 9-10	Emily Lash	Gulf Coast High School	Ms. Kelly Stephens
High School 9-10	Saffy Millar	Marco Island Academy	Mr. Logan Bruce
High School 9-10	Jaime R. Molina-Osorio	Lely High School	Ms. Thompson-Fresenius
High School 9-10	Dani Jai Morris	Lorenzo Walker Technical	Ms. Rita Kentros
High School 9-10	Ellie Poling	Lely High School	Ms. Whitney Gaskell
High School 9-10	Sean Ross	Naples High School	Ms. Dawn Peterson
High School 9-10	Alba Valentina Salinas	Lorenzo Walker Technical	Ms. Mel Simmons-Rosen
High School 9-10	Isabella Stapp	Seacrest Country Day School	Ms. Adison Lax
High School 9-10	Rosa Wendell	Lorenzo Walker Technical	Ms. Rita Kentros
High School 9-10	Megan Yonge	Barron Collier High School	Ms. Kristin Voit
High School 11-12	Ivet Aguayo	Lorenzo Walker Technical	Ms. Susan James
High School 11-12	Victoria Alvarez	Lely High School	Ms. Annette Hall
High School 11-12	Jose Chang	Gulf Coast High School	Ms. Kristan Welty
High School 11-12	Teagan Havemeier	Marco Island Academy	Mr. Keith Scalia
High School 11-12	Jessica Hudgins	Seacrest Country Day School	Dr. Mary Zoe Bowden
High School 11-12	Faith Hundley	Gulf Coast High School	Ms. Sherrie Miller
High School 11-12	Jonelys Lazo	Naples High School	Mr. Cody Seevers
High School 11-12	Samantha Lefebvre	Barron Collier High School	Ms. Sarah Marvin
High School 11-12	Noah Matson	Golden Gate High School	Mr. John Krupp
High School 11-12	Suleini Medina	Lorenzo Walker Technical	Ms. Marsha Bergquist

Please extend our congratulations to these students and their teachers. They should be very proud that their essays were among the best selected from almost 5,000 entries. The semi-finalists will make their oral speech presentation before a panel of judges who will determine the first, second, third and fourth place finalists in each division. These finalists will attend the *Laws of Life* banquet on February 21st, 2019, where the order of the winners will be announced.

Readers spent two days scoring over 300 entries received at the District Level. It was not an easy task to select from among so many well-written essays. The judges asked that their compliments be sent to all the contestants with best wishes for continued academic success.

School-Level winners for all participating schools will be announced after the *Laws of Life* banquet. All schools who submitted 5 essays will have a school-based winner regardless of the semi-finalists announced here.

Information on the date, location and rules of the oral presentation are attached for the semi-finalists. The speeches will be given after the winter break, so the turn-around time is rapid.

2018-2019 *Laws of Life*

Elementary and Middle School Semi-Finalist Oral Competition

**The Elementary and Middle School judging will be held
January 9th, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administration Building
5775 Osceola Trail**

High School Semi-Finalist Oral Competition

**The High School judging (both divisions) will be held
January 10th, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administration Building
5775 Osceola Trail**

The semi-finalists will present their essays orally before a panel of judges who will select the top four finalists. These four finalists from each division will be invited to the *Laws of Life* Banquet on February 21st, 2019.

Please make sure your student(s) and their parents know about this next level of competition. An RSVP would be greatly appreciated, so I know everyone will be there on January 9th (for Elementary and Middle School) and January 10th (for High School Divisions 9-10th and 11-12th).

The judging is usually finished by 11:30 a.m. Students present their speeches only to the panel. No audience is allowed. Students will also present a small segment of their speech for a video presentation at the banquet. I have attached the rules for the oral competition. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

This opportunity to promote character education, teach writing skills and provide recognition of student achievement would not be possible without the support of our school contacts and teachers. On behalf of the students, I thank you for your participation.

Kind Regards,
Mikie Stroh, Coordinator of Social Studies and Character Education
Strohm@collierschools.com



RULES FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Statement of Philosophy

Each contestant will be judged on the overall effectiveness of his or her delivery. The very best students will deliver thought provoking, well-written speeches in a very effective manner.

1. Students should deliver a captivating performance of a well-written script.
2. Students adhering to the written length of the speech will be allowed to deliver the entire piece. There will be no penalty for time. However, students should bear in mind that speeches that SEEM long and dull may be penalized for overall effectiveness, the most important category in the judging.
3. Speeches must be on the assigned topic and conform to written length.
4. The most effective speeches are delivered from memory with minimal or no reference to notes.
5. Appropriate dress is expected.
6. Movement should have a purpose.
7. No props, costumes, audio or visual aids are allowed.
8. Students are encouraged to review the information and guidelines for judging as they practice and prepare for their presentation.

SCORING CONSIDERATIONS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Focus | (score of 10 – 20) _____ |
| 2. Organization/writing | (score of 10 – 20) _____ |
| 3. Vocal variety | (score of 1 – 10) _____ |
| 4. Articulation/pronunciation of words | (score of 1 – 10) _____ |
| 5. Eye contact | (score of 1 – 10) _____ |
| 6. Posture, gesture, movement | (score of 1 – 10) _____ |
| 7. Overall Effect | (score of 10 – 20) _____ |