Tennessee State Organization

of the

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

2023-2024 Essay Contest

39th Annual Essay Contest:

High School: grades 9-12

Deadline: February 29, 2024

# Purpose:

To encourage, to recognize, and to reward Tennessee high school students who demonstrate outstanding writing skills.

# Eligibility:

All Tennessee high school students, public and private, in grades 9 –12 are eligible.

# Guidelines for Submitting Essays:

* If a school is only sponsored by one DKG chapter, the school official may submit **up to four** entries.
* When multiple chapters are represented in a school, the school may submit **up to four** entries per sponsoring chapter.
* There should be no duplication of entries. A student may only submit ONE essay to one chapter.
* In the case that a chapter is sending essays from more than one school, each school’s essays should be sent in **separate emails**. In the subject line indicate your **chapter name and the name of the school**.

# Topic:

Write an essay that expresses your opinion on the following question:

**Artificial intelligence [A.I.] is beginning to have a tremendous impact on our world. In what ways will A.I. positively and negatively affect your daily life, now and in the future?**

Be sure to:

* Address the question,
* Include your own personal experiences but you are not limited to first-hand knowledge.
* Use an organizing structure appropriate to the purpose, audience, and content.

# Format:

* Students will include both advantages and disadvantages of artificial intelligence [A.I.].
* They will effectively utilize argumentation strategies to develop an original essay while giving credit for borrowed information and facts from outside sources. Do not overly rely on long quotations. Informal citations are acceptable in this case. Use your own words.
* Each essay must be 450 – 600 words in length.
* It must be typed, double-spaced, size 12 true type font, e.g., Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, and **converted to a pdf,** including the separate cover page that has also been **converted to a pdf.**
* Student’s name **can only appear** on the cover sheet.
* Essay Title needs to be a **header** for the essay page(s).
* See page 4 of this document for the format for the cover page.
* No images will be accepted.
* Formal writing rules apply. See TN ELA standard W.TTP.1.
* The state rubrics will be rigorously applied. Winning essays will be checked for plagiarism.

**Please note:**

* Each essay needs to be submitted in **two parts**:
  + The **cover sheet** formatted as outlined on page 4 of this document, and
  + The **essay**, with the title of the essay as the **ONLY** information appearing on the actual essay pages in a header with page numbers as needed.

**Not following these formatting guidelines and this protocol will result in the entrant being disqualified.**

# Scoring:

Essays will be scored using the rubrics noted above. If you have any questions, please email Mary Wadley at [tndkg.stateprojects@gmail.com](mailto:tndkg.stateprojects@gmail.com).

# Prizes:

First Prize $350 – winner will be invited to attend the awards luncheon at the Tennessee State Convention

Second Prize $250

Third Prize $150

# Deadlines and how to enter:

* The student will submit his/her essay, in two parts as described earlier, to a high school official (teacher, guidance counselor, instructional coach, etc.) **before February 29, 2024**.
* The school official will email the cover sheets and the essays to the contact person of the sponsoring DKG chapter before or on **February 29, 2024**.
* The contact person of the sponsoring DKG chapter will attach all of the cover sheets and the essays from each high school in one email and send them to Mary Wadley, chair of State Projects Committee at [tndkg.stateprojects@gmail.com](mailto:tndkg.stateprojects@gmail.com) by **February 29, 2024**.

# Confirmation:

The contact person from the sponsoring DKG chapter will receive an email confirmation once the entries are received.

# Disclaimer:

All submissions become the property of the Tennessee State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Winning submissions, as the property of Xi State, may be published in the official publication of Tennessee State, *Tennessee State News*, on the Tennessee State website [https://www.tndkg.org/news](http://www.xistate.org/) or by other electronic means. Additionally, winning submissions may be displayed at Tennessee State DKG events and used in Tennessee State DKG presentations.

**Cover Sheet Format/ Information for Essay Entry**

**Must be typed**

**Essay Title**

Student’s Name:

Student’s Mailing Address:

Student’s Phone Number:

Student’s Email Address:

Student’s Grade Level: [9-12]

Student’s School (name and address):

Student’s School official contact person and email address:

Name of the sponsoring DKG chapter:

Name and Email Address of the contact person of the sponsoring DKG Chapter:

Name and Email Address of the Local Newspaper: