The Omegas of Rock Hill in partnership with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Chapter of Rock Hill, SC is pleased to announce its annual **International High School Essay Contest**. As a mandated element of our Fraternity’s Annual International Achievement Week Observance, contestants will have the opportunity to compete for scholarship awards at the local Kappa Alpha Chapter level and the First-Place essay will be submitted to compete at the International Level.

Kappa Alpha Chapter Scholarship Awards:

1st Scholarship: **$500**; 2nd Scholarship: **$300**; 3rd Scholarship: **$200**

International Four College Scholarship Awards:

1st Scholarship: **$5,000**; 2nd Scholarship: **$3,000**; 3rd Scholarship: **$2,000**; 4th Scholarship: **$1,000**

The Contest is open to all college-bound students who are homeschooled or attend high school in York and Chester Counties in South Carolina who submit an essay. We invite all qualified students to put forward a submission. **Contest has been extended but will CLOSE on October 31, 2023.** Incomplete submissions or submissions time stamped after midnight on October 31, 2023, **will not** be considered.

All contestants submitting manuscripts thereby grant to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. the right to keep the manuscripts and to exercise full publishing rights to them. Winners may be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essay was submitted.

**All essays will be evaluated against the following cr*iteria****:*

1. Development of Topic/Thesis: Topic is well-developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)
2. Topic Progression: Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information
3. Readability: Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader’s attention)
4. Grammar: Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same
5. Proper Spelling and Punctuation

**Essay Requirements:**

1. Compose an original and non-Artificial Intelligence (AI) assisted essay that has not been previously published nor secured by copyright. **The essay must be between 700-750 words in length**. Please use your word processing application to verify the word count. Applications exceeding word count will not be accepted. The essay must be type-written, double-spaced, and submitted in Microsoft Word file format. Submissions must adequately address this year’s topic: ***“With politics gaining the bulk of discussion, what can the younger generation do to ensure that elected leaders understand the impact of gaining their vote?***
2. Complete biographical header section in its entirety on page two of this application. Complete the essay in the space immediately below the header. Words in the header section are not included in the essay word count.
3. All submission must include a recent photo of the applicant on page three of this application
4. Submit your essay and photo to [KAChapterScholarshipCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:KAChapterScholarshipCommittee@gmail.com). **Do not send your essay to the Fraternity’s Headquarters or attempt to submit it any other way.**

Kappa Alpha Chapter will notify its contestant winners by November 6, 2023, and the winners will be required to participate in our Founder’s Banquet the week of November 17th. Kappa Alpha Chapter will forward the first-place submission to the International Fraternity Contest. International Fraternity Award winners will be announced on or about June 1, 2024, and the decision of the judges will be final. Both local and international Fraternity scholarship awards will be presented to winners upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled in. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required. Awards must be claimed within 18 months after the announcement date to be valid.

Please contact Dr. Jesse W. Gardner ([jwgque1960@gmail.com](mailto:jwgque1960@gmail.com)) with questions.

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**An Essay By:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Home Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Name of High School:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address of High School:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Email:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contest Name:** Omega Psi Phi Fraternity International High School Essay Contest

**Name of Sponsoring Chapter:** Kappa Alpha Chapter **Location of Chapter:** Rock Hill, South Carolina

(Begin Essay Here—Delete this text)

Insert Applicant Photo