

## **Hope and Stanley Adelstein Essay Contest**

### **2025 Judging Guidelines**

Essays will be scored on:

- Responding to the correct prompt question and required components
- Essays will be judged on their clarity, content alignment, originality, and organization/flow

Scoring entries:

- Each entry is assigned a number. Essays are blind-scored by number only; no student or school names are identified. Do not include any student name or school name within the body of your essay. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- A minimum of two readers score each essay using a numerical point scale and the criteria outlined above.
- The winners are determined by the final compiled score from the final judging round.
- Essays are put into two categories – 9/10 grade and 11/12 grade

Eligibility:

- All Northeast Ohio high school students are eligible to participate
- Essays must be 500-1,000 words
- Please use 3 to 5 articles from reliable, valid sources in your essay.
- FINAL Extended Deadline: **FRIDAY, March 21, 2025 @ 11:59 PM**

All 1st place winners will also be invited to read their winning essay at a City Club forum in the spring.

### **Scholarship Awards:**

9/10 Grade:

- First Place: \$500
- Second Place: \$250
- Third Place: \$150
- Honorable Mention: \$100

11/12 Grade :

- First Place: \$1,000
- Second Place: \$750
- Third Place: \$500
- Honorable Mention: \$250