



Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest

Theme:

This year's theme for Hispanic Heritage Month is **Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation**. Write an essay that reflects what this phrase means to you. The following ideas are some of the subtopics you may want to address. What does a united and stronger nation look like to you? In what ways do unity and inclusivity provide strength, particularly national strength? What are some of the groups that should work toward becoming more unified and/or inclusive? In what ways? Can you give some examples of how unity has brought strength in the past or how it is currently working to accomplish common goals in the nation? How can unity be achieved while valuing diversity? What would you do in your community to strengthen unity and inclusivity for a stronger nation? Your essay does not need to be limited to these ideas. Feel free to interpret the theme in your own way.

Essay guidelines:

1. Must have between 300 and 500 words, written in English or Spanish, typed in double-space with one inch margins. Font must be Arial size 11.
2. Must include a title page containing the following information only:
 - a. Essay title
 - b. Your name (**on title page only**)
 - c. The name of this contest
3. Research is not a requirement; however, if you utilize information from another source, you must recognize it in your writing and include a bibliography using MLA format for all sources consulted. **Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.**
4. Read the rubric carefully to understand how your essay will be judged.

Three winners will be selected. The winners will receive a gift card in the following amounts:

1st place \$150.00
2nd place \$100.00
3rd place \$50.00

All student essay submissions should be sent to essay@angelina.edu by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 7. The winners will be recognized on Thursday, October 13 @ 10:55 a.m. in the Lobby of the Student Center.



Essay Rubric

Score	Description	Completion of Task	Topic Development, Content, Creativity	Language Use, Accuracy
3	Excellent	Student addresses the topic completely. Student met all essay guidelines.	The essay is developed in a well thought out, personal, and creative manner. The overall organization and the organization within paragraphs is easy to follow and helps impact the reader.	Essay has no or very few errors. Language use contributes to the impact of the ideas expressed.
2	Good	Student addresses the topic given. Essay meets the minimum guidelines for length and presentation and if a bibliography is included, it is formatted according to MLA guidelines.	Ideas are somewhat developed, but some details may be lacking. Overall organization is good, but organization within the paragraphs could be better.	Essay has few errors and language use is adequate to the task.
1	Poor	Student attempts to address the topic given. Essay does not meet minimum length requirements. Bibliography contains some errors.	Student gives few details to support and develop the main idea(s). Organization may be lacking. Essay addresses the topic.	Essay has some errors throughout that impede the flow of reading.
0	Unsatisfactory	Student did not address the topic.	Essay is off topic.	Essay is difficult to read due to errors.