

The University of Scranton
Essay Contest
Celebrate Earth Day 2019
“Caring for Earth’s Critters”

Area students in grades 7-12 may participate in an environmental essay contest at The University of Scranton as part of its Celebrate Earth Day 2019 program. The University’s student Sustainability Club will host an Evening of Environmental Science reception for participants and their families and teachers on Thursday, April 11, 2019 from 6 to 8pm in the Loyola Science Center Lobby, which will feature an exhibit of the submissions.

Essay contest winners will be announced at a brief ceremony at 6:30pm that evening. The informal event will include science experiments and displays presented by University students and faculty. Refreshments will be served. The University will display essay submissions in the Loyola Science Center Lobby from April 8 through the reception date (April 11, 2019). The essay contest is sponsored by the University of Scranton.

The theme for this year’s Essay Contest is, **“Caring for Earth’s Critters.”**

Requirements:

Student essays need to clearly explain their position on climate change and include information on its possible causes and effects on earth’s animals. The essay should provide a clear understanding of the topic.

- **7th and 8th grade essays must be between 200 and 400 words**
- **9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade essays must be between 300 and 500 words**

Each essay must be type written (word processed) and the original work of the submitter (plagiarized submissions or hand written essays will not be accepted). Submissions must include the student’s name, address, phone number, email, grade, age and school. Please note the name of teacher if this is part of a school or class project. All essays must also include the number of words in the essay. There is no charge for the submissions.

The University reserves the right to choose which essays are showcased in its exhibit.

Contest winners will be announced and recognized at the April 11 event.

Submissions should be sent to: The University of Scranton, Provost Office, 800 Linden Street, Scranton, PA 18510, Attn: Earth Day Essay Contest. Submissions must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2019 to be considered. Electronic submissions deadline is April 3, 2019. Please email to linda.walsh@scranton.edu

Submissions can be picked-up at the University immediately following the April 11 event at the Loyola Science Center Lobby.

Contact The University of Scranton at 570-941-7669 if other arrangements need to be made to return the submitted pieces.

Judging:

Essays will be judged based on the following criteria:

- 75% - Content. Important points to remember: essays must clearly identify a position on climate change; discuss its causes and effects; and demonstrate an understanding of the topic.
- 15% - Grammar, spelling, etc.
- 10% - Form. Submissions must include student's name, grade, school and other requirements as listed.

Submitted essays will be exhibited at the University's Loyola Science Center Lobby from April 8 through April 11, 2019 (Evening of Environmental Science reception for participants and their families and teachers). Winners will be announced at a brief ceremony at the reception. Finalist will receive certificates and Earth Day medals.

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