



American Ancestors®

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

2027 American Ancestors Young Family Historians Essay Contest



The 2027 American Ancestors Young Family Historians Essay Contest is open for students enrolled in grades 4–12 in public, private, and home schools across the nation and US territories.

We encourage teachers to use this essay contest as a class project. Our [Family History Curriculum](#) has everything you need to help students explore their roots, including inquiry-based lessons, teaching strategies, and editable student worksheets.

Essay Question

Select an object that is meaningful to you. It may be a family heirloom or a newer item that has special meaning in your life. Share the story of the object and explain what it reveals about you, your family, or your family history.

Prizes

Grades 4-6

- Winner (\$500)
- Semifinalist (\$250)

Grades 7-8

- Winner (\$500)
- Semifinalist (\$250)

Grades 9-12

- Winner (\$500)
- Semifinalist (\$250)

Each winner & semifinalists will receive a one-year, student membership to American Ancestors.

Submit your entry at AmericanAncestors.org/Essay-Contest-2027 or scan the QR code



\$250-\$500 in prizes!

Submission Deadline:

APRIL 1, 2027

Who is eligible?

Students currently enrolled in grades 4–12 in public, private, parochial, and home schools across the nation and US territories.

Submission Guidelines

- Grades 4-6: 500 words
- Grades 7-8: 750 words
- Grades 9-12: 1,000 words

Formatting

- Word counts are approximate
- Number all pages
- Double-spaced
- 12 pt Times New Roman
- 1-inch margins on all sides
- Submission file must be a PDF