

Keokuk Association for Rights & Equality (K.A.R.E.)

Asian-American & Pacific Islander Essay Contest

Grades 4 & 5 – Choose one individual from the following list of famous Asian-Americans & Pacific Islanders:

1. Amanda Nguyen
2. David Chang
3. George Takei
4. Kamala Harris
5. Katherine Luzuriaga
6. Tammy Duckworth
7. Troy Polamalu
8. Yo-Yo Ma

Report Criteria:

Using what you have learned from your research, you will introduce your individual as well as write about your Asian-American's achievements. Your report must be in your own words, be organized, and use good grammar and spelling. Your report will be judged on how well you understood your research and followed these criteria.

Middle School (You may choose a question from this category OR a question from the Middle School & High School category. (Choose **only** one question.)

1. Choose one person from the above Asian-American & Pacific Islander list. Write about the period in which he or she lived, and what he or she did to improve their life.
2. Name at least one historical event in Asian American & Pacific Islander history that you think is important and explain why it is significant to you.

Middle School & High School (Choose **only** one question.)

Select one quote from the famous Asian American & Pacific Islander Quotations. In your report include the person's name, information about his or her occupation, location, and his or her achievements. Then explain what the quotation means to you. Your essay will be judged on how well you performed and understood your research, explanation of the quote, and your use of grammar and spelling.

Famous Asian-Americans & Pacific Islanders Quotations:

- A. "No one is truly equal and free until everyone is equal and free." - Helen Zia
- B. "Do something because you really want to do it. If you're doing it just for the goal and don't enjoy the path, then I think you are cheating yourself." - Kalpana Chawla
- C. "A single seed can turn into a forest; a single heart can transform a nation." - Bryan Thao Worra
- D. "Our differences in beliefs do not truly separate us or elevate us over others. Rather, they highlight the rich tapestry that is humanity." – George Takei

- E. “When you learn something from people or from culture, you accept it as a gift, and it is your lifelong commitment to preserve it and build on it.” – Yo-Yo Ma
- F. “When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.” – Malala Yousafzai
- G. “Life is not what you alone make it. It is the input of everyone who touched your life and every experience that entered it; we are all a part of one another.” - Yuri Kochiyama

Your report must be in your own words and will be judged on how well you have followed the criteria. It must be typed, double-spaced, using Times New Roman 12-point font. **On the upper right-hand side of Page 1** include the student’s name, grade, the teacher’s name, school name, and the date of submission.

**Example: Cynthia Smith, 5th grade
Mrs. Jones, Wells School
May 2, 2024**

All reports are due by the end of the day, **May 7, 2024**. Late reports will **not** be accepted.

Awards:

A total of \$235.00 will be awarded to students according to the following categories:

Elementary, Grades 4-5	First prize \$20	Second price \$15	Third prize \$10
Middle School, Grades 6-8	First prize \$35	Second prize \$25	Third prize \$20
High School, Grades 9-12	First prize \$50	Second prize \$35	Third prize \$25

Who may participate?

Students receiving education in the Keokuk area school district are invited to participate. Information on the contest will be publicized in the **Daily Gate City** newspaper and on the Keokuk Community School District’s website. Essays will be picked up at participating schools *on the due date* OR may be sent to either Mrs. Mills-Echols at 1054sjme@gmail.com or Ms. Riesberg at maryjoriesberg@gmail.com.

If there any questions, individuals may contact either Ms. Maryjo Riesberg at 319/526-3160 or via her email maryjoriesberg@gmail.com or Mrs. Sylvia Mills-Echols at 319/795-3215 or via her email at 1054sjme@gmail.com .

Disclaimer: This event/program is not affiliate with the Keokuk Community School District. Please contact the sponsor with inquires.