

JOHN BELL CHAPTER, NSDAR



August 5, 2020

Dear American History Teacher,

I am writing to encourage your students' participation in the DAR's American History Essay Contest for the 2020-2021 academic year. The topic title this year is "The Boston Massacre."

Topic: March 5, 2020, marks the 250th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, considered to be a pivotal event that paved the way to the American Revolution. Imagine you are living in Boston and, after witnessing the events of March 5, describe your family's discussion about the Boston Massacre and what role it played in organizing the colonists against the British King and Parliament.

The deadline for the essays to be submitted to me is **Friday, November 13, 2020.**

I am enclosing a form, flyer, and other resources for your use that detail the specifics required for the essay. There are specific instructions to follow, including a title page. Please instruct students to read and follow these instructions carefully as essays are disqualified every year for failure to do so.

Please send completed essay entries to:

Dallas Sipes Chapman
833 Columbia Drive
Poynette, WI 53955

Please let me know if you have any questions. My phone number is 608.635.0083 and my email address is dallassipes@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your participation and assistance,

Dallas Sipes Chapman, Chair
John Bell Chapter DAR American History Essay Committee



Rise and Shine for America

**Are you in 5th through 8th grade?
You're invited to participate in an**

Essay Contest

Topic for 2020-2021

March 5, 2020 marks the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Massacre, considered to be a pivotal event that paved the way to the American Revolution. Imagine you are living in Boston and, after witnessing the event of March 5, describe your family's discussion about the Boston Massacre and what role it played in organizing the Colonists against the British King and Parliament.

Title of Essay

“The Boston Massacre”

Open to Grades 5-8

Length 300-1,000 words (depending on grade level)

For information contact:

DAR chapter John Bell Chapter, NSDAR

Contact Dallas Sipes Chapman

Phone (608) 635.0083 E-mail dallassipes@hotmail.com

**National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST 2020–2021**

(This information is for chapter and school use)

TOPIC:	Topic for 2020–2021: March 5, 2020, marks the 250th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, considered to be a pivotal event that paved the way to the American Revolution. Imagine you are living in Boston and, after witnessing the events of March 5, describe your family’s discussion about the Boston Massacre and what role it played in organizing the colonists against the British King and Parliament.
PARTICIPANTS:	All grade 5, 6, 7, and 8 students in a public, private, or parochial school, or those who are home schoolers, are eligible. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. DO NOT SUBMIT A STUDENT PHOTOGRAPH WITH ENTRY.
LENGTH:	Grade 5: 300–600 words Grades 6, 7, and 8: 600–1,000 words
FORM:	<p>Essay is to be handwritten in black ink, typed, or prepared on a computer or word processor, using black type in a non-script font no smaller than 12 point or larger than 14 point. A limited vision student may use Braille, a tape recorder, or very large type. A written transcript must be included, as well as a teacher’s or physician’s letter attesting to the student’s special need.</p> <p>Please note that the entire essay must be the student’s original work. This includes all research, writing, and editing, which must be done by the student themselves and not by a parent, teacher, tutor, or other helper. Essay submissions not following these guidelines will be disqualified.</p> <p>Each essay must have a title page listing the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Title of Essay: “The Boston Massacre” (A subtitle is permitted if written below the topic.)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Contestant’s full name and address. (street, rural route, PO Box, city, state, zip code) <u>Note:</u> If the school’s regulations prohibit providing the student contact information, then school contact information may be substituted.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Contestant’s phone number (with area code) and e-mail address, if available</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Name of contestant’s school with grade level indicated</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Name of sponsoring DAR chapter</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Number of words in essay</p>
BIBLIOGRAPHY:	<p>Essay must have a bibliography listing all references utilized. Internet resources, if used, should be cited in similar format to that used for printed resources. Add the electronic address used to access the document as supplementary information.</p> <p>Any essay with information copied directly from sources without using quotes will be disqualified.</p>
JUDGING AND AWARDS:	<p>Judging will be based on historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of material, interest, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation, neatness, and that is the student’s own work. Pictures, maps, drawings, graphics, and other such additions <i>will not</i> be considered in judging and should not be included.</p> <p>Judging at the chapter level is by three judges, including at least one non-DAR judge. Judging at other levels is by three judges, all of whom are non-DAR members.</p> <p>CHAPTER: One essay at each grade level is selected as the chapter winner and forwarded to the state American History chair for state competition. American History essay contest chapter winner certificates and bronze medals may be presented by the chapter if desired. In addition, chapters may present certificates of participation to every student who participates in the essay contest. These supplies are available from The DAR Store.</p> <p>STATE: One essay at each grade level is selected as the state winner and forwarded to the appropriate national division vice chair of American History for division competition. The state winner receives a silver medal and state winner certificate.</p> <p>DIVISION: One essay in each grade is selected as the division winner and forwarded for national competition to the national vice chair. Division winners are presented a division winner certificate.</p> <p>NATIONAL: One essay in each grade is selected as the national winner. A certificate, gold pin and monetary award is presented to each national winner at Continental Congress in June 2021. Winning essays may appear in official DAR communications.</p> <p>Note: All essays must first be submitted to a local chapter. Essays sent directly to the national chair or vice chair of the essay contest will not be considered.</p>
DEADLINE:	Chapter chairs should determine date for students/schools to forward essays to them to allow for judging to be completed prior to state deadline. <i>States with district level judging should set appropriate intermediate deadlines. Date assigned:</i>

NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF CHAPTER CONTACT PERSON Dallas Sipes Chapman 608.635.0083

NAME OF SPONSORING DAR CHAPTER John Bell Chapter, NSDAR

If additional information about the contest is needed, please contact the Office of the Historian General, NSDAR, at
1776 D Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006–5303 Phone: (202) 879–3256



2020 – 2021 AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST
“The Boston Massacre”
Reading Resources

For all readers:

- Beier, Ann. *Crispus Attucks: Hero of the Boston Massacre*. New York: Rosen, 2004. Print
- Burgan, Michael. *The Boston Massacre (Graphic History)*. Minnesota: Capstone Press, 2006. Print
- Rinaldi, Ann. *The Fifth of March: A Story of the Boston Massacre (Great Episodes)*. Boston: HMH Books for Young Readers, 2004. Print.
- Santella, Andrew. *The Boston Massacre*. New York: Children’s Press, 2004. Print.

For younger readers:

- Benoit, Peter. *The Boston Massacre*. New York: Scholastic, 2014. Print.
- Jeffrey, Gary. *John Adams and the Boston Massacre (Graphic Heroes of the American Revolution)*. New York: Gareth Steven Publishing Learning Library, 2011. Print
- Morano Kjelle, Marylou. *Foundations of Our Nation: The Boston Massacre*. Minnesota: Abdo Publishing, 2013. Print.
- Murray, Stuart. *DK Eyewitness Books: American Revolution: Discover How a Few Patriots Battled a Mighty Empire from the Boston Massacre to the Birth of a New Nation*. New York: DK Children, 2015. Print.
- Siddons, Brian. *Crispus Attucks and African-American Patriots of the American Revolution*. New York: Powerkids Press, 2015. Print.
- Stark Draper, Allison. *The Boston Massacre: Headlines from History*. New York: Rosen. 2001. Print.

For older readers:

- Allison, Robert. *The Boston Massacre (New England Remembers)*. Massachusetts: Commonwealth Editions, 2006. Print.

Online resources:

<https://www.masshist.org/features/massacre>

https://kids.kiddle.co/Boston_Massacre

<http://socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/ushistory/bostonmassacre.htm>

**NATIONAL SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

Topic for 2020–2021

March 5, 2020, marks the 250th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, considered to be a pivotal event that paved the way to the American Revolution. Imagine you are living in Boston and, after witnessing the events of March 5, describe your family’s discussion about the Boston Massacre and what role it played in organizing the colonists against the British King and Parliament.

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES

STUDENT’S NAME: _____ **GRADE:** _____

SCHOOL: _____

NUMBER OF WORDS IN ESSAY: _____

DIRECTIONS FOLLOWED: (All must be answered affirmatively)

1. **FORM:** Handwritten in black ink, typed or prepared on computer or word processor with non-script font no smaller than 12 pt. and no larger than 14 pt. Yes? _____ No? _____
(ESSAY MUST BE STUDENT’S OWN WORK)

2. **NUMBER OF WORDS:** Yes? _____ No? _____
Grade 5: 300–600
Grades 6–8: 600–1,000
(All words count. Title page and bibliography excluded.
Dates count as one word.)

3. **TITLE PAGE:** The following must be listed on the title page: Yes? _____ No? _____

- Title of Essay: “**The Boston Massacre**”
(A subtitle is permitted if written below the topic.)
- Contestant’s full name and address
(includes street, rural route, or PO Box, city, state, zip code)
Note: If the school’s regulations prohibit providing the student’s contact information, then contact information for the school may be substituted.
- Contestant’s phone number and area code
- Contestant’s e-mail address, if available
- Name of contestant’s school and grade level
- Name of sponsoring DAR chapter
- Number of words in essay

JUDGING BASED UPON: (must have a bibliography or is disqualified)

- 1. Completeness of title page (1 to 5 points) _____
 - 2. Historical accuracy (1 to 25 points) _____
 - 3. Adherence to subject (1 to 15 points) _____
 - 4. Organization of material (1 to 10 points) _____
 - 5. Originality (1 to 10 points) _____
 - 6. Interest (1 to 10 points) _____
 - 7. Spelling and punctuation (1 to 10 points) _____
 - 8. Grammar (1 to 10 points) _____
 - 9. Bibliography (1 to 5 points) _____
- Total Points _____

JUDGE’S SIGNATURE _____

(A copy of this guide should be given to each judge and final points tabulated by chair. Chair can determine if title page is correct instead of judge, if desired.)