Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc

Organized 1894

Date: October 23, 2017

To: LAOH State Irish Historians

Re: 2017-2018 National Irish History Contest, Corrected Information

Dear Sisters,

I am proud and honored that in our 123rd year as an organization, we continue to promote our Irish and Irish American History. The 2017-2018 National Irish History Contest will honor the topics that are still related to the decade of the centenaries considering the many events in history that have occurred in this decade 100 years ago**.** The topic for this 2017-2018 writing contest is: "Expressing Irish History through Music."

I am in the process of designing a brochure to make the Irish History Contest more appealing and will send separately. Please feel free to make copies and list your Division Contact information. Enclosed are the Rules of the Contest and Judging Criteria. Please note: Wikipedia is not a source that can be used and MLA Style of writing is not a source either because this is not an essay contest.

The Timelines for the 2017-2018 National History Writing Contest are as follows:

September 1, 2017 - National Historian to State Historians
September 15, 2017- State Historian to County Board and Division Historians.

October 2nd - November 15th-Schools should receive packages and students begin writing papers.

November 15,2017 –Entries, (4 copies of each) are to be submitted to Division Historians.

December 15, 2017- 7 winning entries, (4 copies of each) are to be submitted to County Board Historian.

January 15, 2018- 7 winning entries, (4 copies of each) are to be submitted to State Board Historian.

February 15, 2018 - 7 winning entries, (4 copies of each) per State are to be submitted to National Board Historian for judging.

March 31, 2018-National Board Awards Announced.

To ensure that the State Historians Contact Information is correct, please complete the Contact Information form by October 1, 2017. Please email this completed Contact Information to deew93395@gmail.com If you are not able to email the completed Contact Information Form, you may return the completed Form by USPS to the address of: Dee Wallace, 206 Bellewood Drive, Aiken, SC 29803. I have included the guidelines from the meeting of the History Committee at the 2014 National Convention, I hope they are helpful. Please feel free to make any suggestions.

The most important goal of the Irish History Contest is that we share our proud Irish and Irish American History. We want everyone to learn something about our proud History. This Irish History Writing Contest should be fun and informative for the students, the judges and our membership.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Dee Wallace
LAOH National Irish Historian
206 Bellewood Drive
Aiken, SC 29803
deew93395@gmail.com
(706) 955-6574

Enclosures: State Irish Historian Contact Information Form
Irish Historian Guidelines
Judging Criteria
2017-2018 National Irish History Contest Student Information and Rules

cc: National Board and State Presidents
State Irish Historians

Note: Changes are to indicate that this is not an Essay Contest. As per the 2014 National Convention it was changed to a writing Contest. Additionally, MLA format is not required. Please note that this year either format for the entries will be accepted and judge accordingly, per National Board agreement.

State Irish Historian Contact Information

Please assist me as I gather information from each State Irish Historian by completing the following Contact Information. This data will help me build a reliable data base so that I may communicate with you in a timely manner.

State_____

State Historian_____

Address_____
Number Street

_____
City State Zip

Home Phone_____ Cell Phone_____
Area Code Number Area Code Number

Email address_____

Number of Divisions In Your State _____
Number of County Boards In Your State _____
2016-2018 Number of State Entries LEVEL 1_____
LEVEL 2_____

How Does your State Board support the contest?

_____

_____

Does the State Board Award Monetary Prizes? Yes_____ No _____
Please specify the Monetary Prizes Awarded for Each LEVEL

LEVEL 1	Monetary Prize	LEVEL 2
_____	First Place	_____
_____	Second Place	_____
_____	Third Place	_____
_____	Honorable Mention	_____
_____	Honorable Mention	_____

Please return this Contact Information Form to me via email or USPS mail:

Email Address OR Mailing Address
deew93395@gmail.com
Dee Wallace
National Irish Historian
206 Bellewood Drive
Aiken, SC 29803
706-955-6574

IRISH HISTORIAN GUIDELINES

1."Promote proper recognition of the study of Irish History in Catholic, public and private schools, home schools, colleges and all educational institutions" (National Constitution)

2. "Publicize the annual Irish History Writing Contest through Boards, Divisions and local press."(National Constitution)

3. "Recommend Irish History Writing Contest subjects to the National Irish Historian."(National Constitution)

4."Recommend to State/County and Division Historians suggested topics and material for the study of Irish History."(National Constitution)

5. "Select qualified judges with expertise in history and education." (National Constitution) A minimum of 3 Judges per level is required.

6. The National Irish Historian will submit the Irish History Writing Topics, Rules and Judging Criteria to the State Irish Historians by September 1, 2017.

7. The State Irish Historians are to forward the information from National to County Board and Division Historians by September 15, 2017.

8. The Irish History Writing Contest Information shall be shared with school, home schooled students, Parishes and any other interested party by October 1, 2017.

9. Each student entering the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest should be given a copy of the Student information contest rules, and a copy of the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria.

10. Students are to write their essays from October 1, 2017-November 15, 2017

11. All entries shall be submitted by November 15, 2017 to the Local LAOH Division. The student needs to submit 4 copies of his/her paper.

12. A minimum of 3 judges is required for all Divisions, County Board, State Boards and National Board Levels.

13. Judging on the Division level will begin on November 15, 2017. A minimum of 3 judges is required.

13. The student's title page is to be removed and a number is to be given to the paper prior to the paper being given to the judges so that the judges are able to evaluate each paper without prejudice.

14. Each paper will be evaluated in the following categories: (1) Comprehension with a point value of 1-30 points, (2) Organization with a point value of 1-20 points, (3) Conclusion with a point value of 1-15 points, (4) Creativity with a point value of 1-20 points, and (5) Writing with a point value of 1-15 points. A total of 100 points is available in the scoring procedure.

15. At each level, the Irish Historian shall determine the recommended score to be achieved to move the student paper to the next level.

16. No markings should appear on the student work as it is being evaluated at each level. If a student paper is advanced to the next level with any markings, edits, scores, etc., it will be disqualified at the next level.

17. The Irish Historian shall provide to the judges the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria to assist each judge in recording student scores.

18. Each paper is to be evaluated using the Judging Criteria. The questions in each category on the Judging Criteria Sheet are suggested questions and are not limiting criteria for

the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating each student paper.

19. The judges should also review the 2017-2018 National LAOH Student Information and Contest Rules prior to evaluating each student paper.

20. A total of 7 writing papers per Level may be submitted from the Division to the County by December 15, 2017. When submitting to the next level, send all 4 copies of each winning entry.

21. If there is no County structure in your State, the winning papers will be submitted to the State by January 15, 2018. Remember to send all 4 copies of winning papers.

22. A total of 7 papers per Level can be submitted from the County Board to the State Board by January 15, 2018. Remember to send all 4 copies of each paper.

23. A total of 7 papers per Level for each State can be submitted to the National Irish Historian by February 15, 2018. Remember to send all 4 copies of each paper.

24. Judging on the National Level will start on February 15, 2018. Awards for both Levels will be First, Second, Third and 2 Honorable Mentions.

25. Winners will be announced March 31, 2018.

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest
Judging Criteria

Student Paper Number_____

COMPREHENSION:	(1-30 Points)	_____	How historically accurate is the paper? How well does the writer substantiate a thorough understanding of the issues involved in the topic? How well does the writer clearly distinguish in his/her discussion of the topic the thoughts, expressions, and ideas that are his/hers as opposed to those thoughts, expressions, and ideas of others? How well does the writer demonstrate his/her ability to grasp the wider implications of the topic? How well does the writer cite references used?
ORGANIZATION:	(1-20 Points)	_____	How well does the writer organize his/her thoughts within the paragraphs? How well does the writer express his/her thoughts in a clear, effective manner? How well does the writer adhere to the requirements specified on the Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet? How well does the writer adhere to the minimum and/or maximum number of words to be used for a LEVEL 1 or for a LEVEL 2 paper?
CONCLUSION:	(1-15 Points)	_____	How well does the writer's conclusion logically follow from the material presented? How well does the writer's conclusion convince the reader?
CREATIVITY:	(1-20 Points)	_____	How well does the writer utilize a variety of references to support his/her topic? How well does the writer convey a creative approach in addressing his/her topic? How well does the writer demonstrate an effective command of vocabulary as he/she expresses his/her thoughts?
WRITING:	(1-15 Points)	_____	How well does the writer use correct spelling? How well does the writer follow grammar rules? How well does the writer use effective sentence structure? How well does the writer use effective transitions to move from one thought to another thought?
TOTAL SCORE:		_____	The total score is the sum of the five (5) category scores.

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest
Student Information and Contest Rules

***IRISH HISTORY WRITING CONTEST ONLY...NOT AN ESSAY!**

Eligibility & Information: Students in grades 6 through 12 enrolled in parochial, private, public schools or who are home-schooled are eligible to participate in the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. The National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest is comprised of two levels: LEVEL 1 is for students in Grades 6, 7, or 8 and LEVEL 2 is for students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.
Each student entering the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest should be given a copy of the Student Information and Contest Rules as well as a copy of the 2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria.

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Themes:

LEVEL 1 Grades 6-7-8 "Expressing Irish History through Music".
LEVEL 2 Grades 9-10-11-12 "Expressing Irish History through Music".

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Information:

1. Each student wishing to enter the Irish History Writing Contest is to follow the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest information and Contest Rules.
2. Students are to follow their *Research Sources.*
3. Each student is required to submit four(4) copies of their writing paper to the LAOH Division Irish Historian by November 15, 2017.
4. Each student through their participation gives permission to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. to use their paper at LAOH meetings, events and/or in LAOH publications or websites.

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Timelines:

- **Contest Opens September 2017 National Historian submits to State by September 1, 2017; State Historians to County and Division Historians by September 15, 2017**
  Schools receive packages and students begin writing papers October 1, 2017
- Division Level Submissions are to be received by November 15, 2017
- County Level Submissions are to be received by December 15, 2017
- State Level Submissions are to be received by January 15, 2018
- National Level Submissions are to be postmarked by February 15, 2018
- National to announce winners by March 31, 2018

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest National Awards:

National Award	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2
First Place	$500	$1,000
Second Place	$250	$500
Third Place	$125	$250
Honorable Mention	$50	$100
Honorable Mention	$50	$100

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Rules and Guidelines

Paper Length: **LEVEL 1** – Not less than 500 words or more than 1,000 words
LEVEL 2 – Not less than 750 words or more than 1,500 words

Writing Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:

- Make sure to acknowledge all resources that you use as you prepare your paper. Plagiarism involves two kinds of wrongs. Using another person's ideas, information, or expressions without acknowledging that person's work constitutes intellectual theft. Passing off another person's ideas, information, or expressions as your own to get a better grade or gain some advantage constitutes fraud. If the student does not credit sources, the paper will be disqualified.
- Paper is to use double line spacing throughout the paper including the (1) title page, (2) body of paper, (3) quotations, (if any) and sources used
- Paper is to be typed or computer printed single-sided only
- Letter font is not to exceed 12 point
- Margins are to be one (1) inch at the (1) top of page, (2) bottom of page, (3) left side of page, and (4) right side of page
- Paragraphs are to be indented one-half (½) inch from left margin, the indented line alerts the reader to a new paragraph as you use double lines spacing throughout the paper
- Sources used are to be listed on a separate page after the body of the paper. The author's name is flush with the left margin and the second double line spacing is indented one-half (½) inch from the left margin
- The Works Cited should be numbered as the next page following the last page of the body of the paper. All entries should be in alphabetical order.
- The term "Bibliography" is not acceptable for the sources used page.

Additional Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:

- Title Page is to be provided using double line spacing and must provide the student's name, address(home, school or parish)city, state, zip code, phone number, school name, grade level, and number of words in paper exclusive of the Works Cited/References section
- The Title Page should not be numbered
- Page numbers are to be placed in the upper right hand corner at one-half (½) inch from the top margin at the right margin; the student's name should not appear in front of the page number
- Page numbers should be consecutive beginning with the first page of the body of the paper through the Works Cited/References section of the paper.
- Running Heads are not to be used
- Drawings, maps, charts, pictures, etc. are not to be included in the title page or the body of the paper
- Wikipedia is not to be used as a reference in this writing contest nor is MLA Style handbook.

2017-2018 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria

- Each paper will be evaluated in these categories with a maximum number of points allocated for each category: (1) Comprehension [30 points], (2) Organization [20 points], (3) Conclusion [15 points], (4) Creativity [20 points], and (5) Writing [15 points]
- Please refer to the Judging Criteria Sheet for assistance in learning how the judges will evaluate the student paper. The suggested questions are not limiting criteria for the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating the student paper
- The student's title page will be removed and the paper will be given a number prior to be given to the judges, so the judges are able to evaluate each paper without prejudice
- All papers submitted to the judges to be evaluated are to be without any markings
- Student papers will be disqualified if there are any markings on the paper as it is evaluated
- The Irish Historian at each level will determine the minimum score to be achieved for the student paper to be forwarded to the next level within the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.
- **Further Information:**
    - Contact: Dee Wallace, LAOH National Irish Historian
      206 Bellewood Drive
      Aiken, SC 29803
      Phone: 706-955-6574
      Email: deew93395@gmail.com
    - Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. National Website: www.ladiesaoh.com