



THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

501C3 FEDERAL TAX ID #46-5758781

www.NHAcadSci.org

Annual Science Writing Contest

Dear Educators, Parents, and Students;

The New Hampshire Academy of Science (NHAS) invites students from the states of NH and VT grades 8-11 to submit an essay for our annual NH State Academy of Science “Future of Science, Science Writer of the Year” award.

First place awardees will receive a full scholarship and second place awardees will receive a ½ scholarship to attend one of our summer 3-week [intensive research programs](#) at our STEM Lab in Lyme NH. These programs are going to be offered in the Summer 2020 on June 22 – July 10 and July 13 – 31. There will also be 2 weeks of open time at the lab towards the end of the summer for students to finish up their work. All winners will have their writings published on our website, and be honored at a public awards ceremony.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

Essay entries must address a scientific breakthrough that has or has not yet been made and how the writer sees it changing the future of our planet.

Contest entries are due before midnight **March 1, 2020**, and should be submitted via email to [<nhacadsci@gmail.com>](mailto:nhacadsci@gmail.com) with “Essay Contest” in the subject. Complete submissions must include the essay file as an MS word document as well as the author’s name, school, age, grade, and contact information (email address or phone number).

The following criteria also apply:

1. Open to students in grades 8-11 only;
2. Students must either reside or attend school in NH or VT;
3. Home-schooled students of ages 13-16 as of March 1, 2020 are eligible.
4. Each applicant may submit only one essay and it must be the original work of the student.
5. Essays must be 5,000 characters or less, including spaces.
6. We prefer essays be single spaced and use Cambria or Helvetica font 12pt.
7. Images, graphs or any information other than print is not allowed.
8. Past scholarship awardees are not eligible.

Essays will be judged on the following 4 criteria:

- **Originality – 25 pts**
- **Evidence of a thorough understanding of the science involved – 25 pts**
- **Clarity of how the breakthrough will affect our planet– 25 pts**
- **How well the essay reveals sound scientific reasoning – 25 pts**

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Awards will be announced on **April 1st**.

- Each first-place winner will receive a full scholarship to one of our summer 3-week programs worth \$3,000, an honorary membership in the NH Junior Academy of Science, and a gift bag.
- Each second-place winner will receive a half scholarship to one of our summer 3-week programs worth \$1,500, an honorary membership in the NH Junior Academy of Science, and a gift bag.

The first and second place winners will work with our professional science writers to edit and prepare their essays for publication on our website.

To learn more about our summer programs, please visit www.nhacadsci.org and select STEM Programs.

The NHAS has a mission to support the scientific research of New Hampshire and Vermont high school and middle school students and sponsor their attendance at the annual symposium of the largest scientific organization in the world, the AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science). In February of 2020, the NHAS will sponsor 26 students from 3 states and 14 schools to present their scientific research at the AAAS meeting in Seattle WA. Twenty-four of these students qualified to attend by performing original research in one of our programs at our lab in Lyme NH. The two other students performed their research at MIT and Dartmouth College.

We look forward to receiving your submissions;

The Scholarship Committee
NH Academy of Science
PO Box 378
Lyme NH 03768