



SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS 2016

Rotary “4-Way Test Challenge” Essay/Speech Contest

Rotary’s 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say, or do:

Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to ALL concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to ALL concerned?

Highlights for Students

1st place \$1500*, 2nd place \$1000*, 3rd place \$500* & Honorable Mention(s)

Create an original short essay based on the Rotary “4-Way Test” *(see above)*

Apply the Rotary 4-Way Test to a real life situation or challenge. Consider your peers as your audience. As a guideline, essays may be approximately 500 words, about 5 minutes when read as a speech. High school seniors from Gaston County or attending public, private, charter or home school in Gaston County are eligible. Students must be endorsed by their school as demonstrating the 4-Way Test in their personal lives. **Find forms online at GastonCountyScholarships.com.** A direct Facebook link is pending.

Submit your essay to your school’s representative by Monday, March 21

School Representative: _____ (usually Scholarship Coordinator)

Each school selects 4-5 nominees by Thur March 24 (no later than Mon 3/28)

Each school may select up to 4 nominees, and those with more than 200 seniors may submit 5 nominees. Due to various spring break schedules, we prefer to receive essays by Thursday March 24 but will accept essays on-line Monday, March 28th. Schools should submit their essays on-line (with signed completed Student Identifying Forms) in Word, pdf, or scanned format to: Derrick Harris (cderrickh@yahoo.com) and copy Sharon Heinrich (slh4559@yahoo.com). Use “Rotary 4-Way Test Scholarship essay” and your school name in subject line. An acknowledgement will be sent to confirm receipt. Essays and student identifying information will be separated before essays are sent to judges, to maintain the judges’ objectivity and privacy. A preliminary judging process will select up to 10-12 finalists from among all school nominees. Students and schools will be notified by April 12 of those essays selected for the speech contest event.

Finalists present their essays as a speech Sun., April 17, Schiele Museum, 2pm; Scholarships will be awarded based on essay content & presentation

*First place winner will be awarded at least a \$1500 scholarship, 2nd place at least \$1000, and 3rd place at least \$500. “Honorable mentions” (2-3) may be awarded, and judges may select an outstanding essay for a \$250-500 scholarship.

Sponsors: Gaston Breakfast Rotary Club with Gastonia East, Gastonia Evening & Belmont Rotary Clubs
For questions: Derrick Harris (Student/School co-chair) 704.923.5539; cderrickh777@yahoo.com
Sharon Heinrich (4-Way Test Scholarship co-chair) 704.860.7736; slh4559@yahoo.com
School liaison: Grant Sparks – Gaston County Schools (Central Office, Osceola Ave, Gastonia, NC)



ROTARY 4-WAY TEST SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE

The 4-Way Test Scholarship Challenge began in 2012 by Gaston Breakfast Rotary Club. It is a scholarship opportunity for Gaston County high school seniors who create and present an original essay/speech based on the Rotary “4-Way Test”. The 4-Way Test guides members of Rotary International worldwide in their personal and vocational life:

Of the things we think, say, or do:

Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to ALL concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to ALL concerned?

WHO

Students may be a high school senior from Gaston County in public, private, charter, or home school. Each high school selects up to 4 nominees (up to 5 nominees if more than 200 seniors). Home or boarding school students' essays will go directly to the committee to select up to 4 students. From among all school nominees, up to 10-12 finalists will be invited to personally present their essay as a speech and become eligible for scholarship funding. Awards are arranged (paid) directly to a student's post-high school educational institution (which may be college, university, vocational, or technical training program).

WHAT

Your essay must be original and reflect your personal content. Apply the Rotary 4-Way Test to an important real-world issue in everyday life and relationships. To be fair to all, DO NOT mention your name, school, city, or any references to any other information that could personally identify you or your family. Personal testimony and real-life application of the 4-Way Test is encouraged (consider peers as your audience). Use stories, facts, statistics, examples, and quotations as appropriate. Be careful not to include too many statistics. You may share an experience when you (or someone else) did or did not abide by the 4-Way Test, and how you used that experience as a growth or learning opportunity. Be creative – feel free to add humor and personal touches. All content should be respectful, appropriate for diverse audiences. Here are a few questions to jump-start the creative process (NOT an outline): How does the Rotary 4-way test challenge you in your everyday life? How would you live it out and encourage others to do the same? Who lived out the 4-way test in a way that inspired you? How may you be challenged by the 4-way test in the future?

Essays should single-spaced, 12 point type, pages numbered, approximately 500 words, and translating to a 5-6 minute speech, comfortably paced in a natural speaking voice. Notes may be used (no extra points for memorization); students should be comfortable with their essay so they can speak directly with their audience, not read it like a script.

In the spirit of the 4-Way Test, each essay is accompanied by a Student Identifying Information Form with signatures from a parent/guardian and school personnel testifying to a student's character as reflecting the Rotary 4-way Test. Students' personal information will be kept separate from essays until finalists are selected and is not shared with judges until after their final decisions (see attached rubric).



ROTARY “4-WAY TEST” SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE
Student Identifying Information Form Essay # ____

Students: Complete the identifying information and sign “release form” portion (with parent/guardian signature). Submit your essay and this completed form to your school representative by March 21. Schools will select 4-5 nominees by March 24. Only those essays and student info forms will be submitted on-line (deadline: Mon, March 28). Refer to “Highlights for Students” (1st page) for email addresses to submit school nominees (See also: “Gaston County Scholarships.com”).

RELEASE FORM (To be completed by student and parent/guardian – signatures are required)
By signing this release, I indicate my willingness to reproduce or record my essay or speech, and to be published in any form. I affirm my willingness to participate, as my schedule permits, in speaking engagements as requested by Rotary Clubs or district.

Name: _____ Preferred name: _____
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

City, State, Zip _____ E-Mail: _____

Phone #1: () _____ - _____ Phone#2: () _____ - _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Relationship: _____

CHARACTER CERTIFICATION (To be completed by school principal and counselor)
The student has been selected as a high school nominee in the “Rotary Four-Way Test Challenge” and if selected as a finalist (and possibly selected / publicized as a winner), s/he would be recognized as living his/her life consistent with the Rotary 4-Way Test.

School Principal:
 Name (print): _____ Signature: _____

School Counselor:
 Name (print): _____ Signature: _____

High School: _____ Date: _____



ROTARY 4-WAY TEST SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE
Essay/Speech Judging Rubric (adapted from Rotary District 6600)

Student Number _____ **Rater** _____

Criteria (Rate 1-5 , 5 = superior) **Points** **Comments**

Content

Originality, Clarity, Documentation, Reasoning,
Accuracy, Sufficiency, Relevant to peer audience

Organization

Purpose, Introduction, Transitions, Conclusion
Unity of essay/speech, Integration of Theme

Language

Clarity, Expressiveness, Grammar, Pronunciation,
Appropriateness (relevant for peers/professionals)

Effectiveness of Theme (4-Way Test)

Integration/Communication of Rotary 4-Way Test
Knowledge/Application/Reinforcement of Theme

Attitude (*speech only*)

Confidence, Responsibility, Maturity, Sincerity,
Positive Attitude, Demonstration of 4-Way Test

Nonverbal Presentation (*speech only*)

Eye Contact, Gestures, Posture, Appearance

Voice (*speech only*)

Volume, Quality, Rate, Enunciation, Pitch,
Variation appropriate to content/audience

Notes:

TOTAL SCORE: _____ **Time limit met:** yes / no – under/over
Judges should not confer to rate individual speeches, but should make notes on Rubric for each student.



ROTARY 4-WAY TEST SCHOLARSHIPS 2016

Essay/Speech Contest for Gaston County Seniors

Rotary's 4-Way Test

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1. February 2016 (Find information and forms on-line at website "GastonCountyScholarships.com")

High school seniors create an essay on the 4-Way Test and are endorsed by their school as demonstrating the 4-Way Test in their lives. High school seniors from Gaston County or attending public, private, charter, or home school in Gaston County are eligible. Find forms on-line at GastonCountyScholarships.com or URL <http://bit.ly/1LfbGXe>.

2. March 23, 2016 (Deadline for students to submit their essays to schools for school competition)

Each school will review essays and may select up to four (4) essays as school nominees (if they meet guidelines); schools with more than 200 seniors may submit 5 nominees. If more than 5 essays are outstanding, please contact for discussion.

3. March 25, 2016 (Deadline for schools to submit their school nominees to 4-Way Test committee)

*Note: Schools will submit essays and student identifying information via email no later than Monday, March 30th and the committee will keep essays and student information separate to assure privacy and judges' objectivity. Submissions will be acknowledged by email reply; a listing of confirmed nominees will be sent to the central Gaston County Schools' office, and acknowledged individually for designated school contacts for private/charter schools. A preliminary judging will select 10-12 finalists to present their essays at the speech contest. Students and school representatives will be notified by April 12. Students are identified to judges only by number until all speeches are done and judges reach their decisions.

4. April 17, 2016 (Speech Contest, Sunday afternoon, 2 pm, Schiele Museum)

The first place winner will receive not less than \$1500, 2nd place not less than \$1000, and 3rd place not less than \$500, with 2-3 honorable mentions and a special \$500 award reserved for an outstanding essay. The exact amounts of awards will be determined by the judges based on the number of participants and the rankings of essays and speech presentations.

Sponsors: Gaston Breakfast Rotary Club, partners with Gastonia East Rotary Club, Gastonia Evening Rotary Club, & Belmont Rotary Club, District 7680

For questions, contact: Joe Summerville (GBRC President) 704. 718.4812; joesummerville@bellsouth.net
Derrick Harris (Student/School co-chair) 704.212.6422; gordonncdu@aol.com
Sharon Heinrich (4-Way Test Scholarship co-chair) 704.860.7736; slh4559@yahoo.com
School liaison: Grant Sparks – Gaston County Schools (Central Office, Osceola Ave, Gastonia, NC)

ROTARY 4-WAY TEST SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE

Gaston County Public High Schools

Ashbrook	Highland Tech
Bessemer City	Hunter Huss
Cherryville	North Gaston
East Gaston	South Point
Forestview	Stuart Cramer
Gaston Early College	Warlick Academy

Charter / Private High Schools in Gaston County

Cramerton Christian	Piedmont Charter
Gaston Christian	Stanley Christian
Gaston Day	Victory Christian

What is Rotary?

Rotary International is the largest humanitarian service organization in the world, with 1.2 million members. The Rotary motto is “**Service above Self**”.

The Rotary Foundation supports Rotary service projects and other organizations “Doing Good in the World” in the following Areas of Focus: 1) Peace and conflict resolution (including Rotary Peace Centers), 2) Disease prevention & treatment (including End Polio Now), 3) Clean water and sanitation, 4) Maternal & child health, 5) Basic Education & Literacy, 6) Economic & community development.

“The **Object of Rotary** is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service
- SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
- THIRD: The application of the idea of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business, and community life.
- FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

For more information about Rotary International and to learn how you can become involved with Rotary in your community, ask a Rotarian, or go to www.rotary.org.