

Workers Memorial Day Scholarship Essay Contest

Each year on April 28th, workers, legislators, members of organized labor unions, worker advocates and others gather together on Workers Memorial Day to honor the memory of those workers who have lost their lives because of workplace injuries or illnesses during the course of the past year. The sacrifices made by these workers and of the families left behind are spoken of in these ceremonies and those who attend are inspired to work harder on behalf of the welfare of all workers.

This year the Connecticut AFL-CIO Health and Safety Committee is offering a scholarship essay contest to inspire Connecticut high school seniors to think about the importance of workplace health and safety, of the consequences that arise when workers are forced to toil in unsafe working conditions and of the role that organized labor has played in protecting workers both in the past and present.

In this scholarship essay contest Connecticut high school seniors are asked to respond in 1,000 words or less to ONE of the three scenarios below with serious thought, some research and most importantly awareness of the true cost of workplace hazards on the lives of workers. Entries will be judged anonymously on content, originality and clarity of vision.

1st Prize - \$1,500

2nd Prize - \$1,000

3rd Prize - \$500

The winners of this contest will be asked to share a portion of their essay during our 2018 Workers Memorial Day event to be held at the Bushnell Park Worker Memorial on Saturday, April 28, 2018. The essay questions are:

- 1) Identify any workplace hazards that you or a friend face in part-time work, state how it would affect you or your friend and what would be needed to correct the unsafe conditions.
- 2) How did workers and their unions achieve worker protections in the past?
- 3) How important is organized labor to protecting worker safety?

Please email the completed essay and the application below to office@ctaflcio.org no later than April 1, 2018.

2018 Workers Memorial Day Essay Application

Student's Name: _____

Home or Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Parent(s)/guardian(s) name(s): _____

High School Name: _____

High School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

