



2022 Estero Essay Contest

Cash Prizes for 4th Grade Students
First Place, \$200.; Second Place, \$150.; Third Place, \$100.

Sponsored by Estero Council of Community Leaders (ECCL), Estero Historical Society,
and Estero Chamber of Commerce

Requirements:

Essays not to exceed 500 Words, not including references or appendices such as drawings, maps, etc.

Essays should address one of the following:

- ***HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO – ITS DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY SETTLERS*** (Focusing on early periods of Estero – between 500BC and 1955).
- ***HISTORY OF GOVERNANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO*** (Focusing on early periods of Estero – between 500BC and 1955).
- ***HISTORY OF BUSINESS IN THE ESTERO AREA*** (Focusing on early periods of Estero – between 500BC and 1955).

Submissions Are Due March 18, 2022. Submissions at Three Oaks Elementary School will go to Ms. Jessica Thompson, Reading Specialist, Three Oaks Elementary School

Students may submit a separate essay for each of the above areas, and thus be eligible for 3 awards.

Examples of topics to guide essay development:

1. Choose a notable figure from Estero's history. Write a short biography of that person. Tell WHY you chose that character, WHAT made that person notable, and EXPLAIN the contributions that person made to current-day society.
2. Explain why the Estero River was important to the early settlers and the development of Estero.
3. Search for historical documents, letters, and diaries kept from the early history of Estero. What can we learn about historical events or how people lived during the early periods of Estero, starting 500BC through 1955?

Historical information can be obtained from these sites:

- School library or Lee county library - www.leelibrary.net
- Estero Historical Society website – www.esterohistoricalsociety.com
- Estero Historical Society Reading Room – 9283 Corkscrew Palms Blvd, Estero, FL
- [Koreshan Website - www.friendsofkoreshan.org](http://www.friendsofkoreshan.org)
- Florida Gulf Coast University library resources - library.fgcu.edu
- Interviews of local historians or ancestors of early settlers

Essays will be judged based on: Historical accuracy, organization, logical thesis development, English conventions, and inclusion of references.