

## UNION COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE ESSAY CONTEST

To recognize and honor leadership contributions of its members, the Union County Democratic Committee (UCDC) offers an annual essay contest with an award in the names of: Rose Kline, Bea Spielman, and Miriam Landis – the **Kline-Spielman-Landis Award**. One essay question is posed each year for high school juniors and seniors living in Union County to address. Only one submission per student will be accepted. The winning essay will be awarded **\$300** at the annual spring dinner of the UCDC, scheduled for April 16, 2011. Essay submissions are due **Friday, March 25, 2011**. For further information visit [www.uniondemocrats.org](http://www.uniondemocrats.org) or contact [ucdcessay@gmail.com](mailto:ucdcessay@gmail.com) or write: Essay Contest, UCDC, PO Box 3, Lewisburg, PA 17837:

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### **Essay Question for 2011:**

*Beyond exercising their right to vote, what motivates students to become involved as active participants in the democratic process by working for various civic causes?*

### **Eligibility Requirements**

1. All high school juniors and seniors including those home schooled, residing in Union County, PA are eligible for the essay contest.
2. Student must submit their essay on or before: **Friday, March 25, 2011**.

### **Award**

1. One award of \$300 is given.
2. Winning essay is published on the UCDC website.
3. The Essay winner and their parent or guardian are invited to receive their awards at the spring dinner hosted by the UCDC on April 16, 2011.
4. Although the winner is encouraged to participate, attendance at the dinner is not mandatory to receive the award.

### **Contest Regulations**

**All essays must comply with the following contest rules before submission:**

1. No literary form other than an essay will be accepted.
2. Each essay must reflect the contestant's own research, writing and original thinking and be prepared by one author only.
3. Only one (1) essay may be submitted by each student.
4. Essays must be typed, double spaced in no smaller than 11 pt font and each page numbered.
5. Entries must be in English.
6. Essays must contain at least 300 words but no more than 500 words. Every word of the essay is counted. This does not include the title page, bibliography or footnotes. Do NOT bold, underline, or use charts, tables, or graphs.
7. References should be cited as endnotes and do not count towards 500 -word limit.

8. Do NOT put your name on the essay or on the filename. Your name should only be on the title page.
9. Entrants will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours of an email submission.
10. Entrants must write on the official topic.
11. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the essay must be identified properly. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
12. Pages of mailed entries must be stapled together in the upper left-hand corner.

### **Submission**

1. Each essay must include a **Title Page** with the following information:
  2.

**NAME OF ESSAY AWARD (Kline-Spielman-Landis Award)**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF WORDS AND PAGES OF ESSAY**  
**AUTHOR'S NAME**  
**SCHOOL AUTHOR ATTENDS**  
**GRADE IN SCHOOL**  
**AUTHOR EMAIL ADDRESS**  
**PARENT NAME(S)**  
**ADDRESS**  
**PHONE NUMBER**
  3. The name of the essay award (**Kline- Spielman-Landis**), but NOT the author's name, **MUST** appear on the top of the first page of essay text.
  4. Entries may be submitted in one of two ways:
    - a. **Regular mail**: mail two (2) copies of the essay to:

Essay Contest  
Union County Democratic Committee  
P.O. Box 3  
Lewisburg, PA 17837
    - b. **Email**: You may send your essay by email, to [ucdcessay@gmail.com](mailto:ucdcessay@gmail.com).  
The email document should be written in Microsoft Word, Text or PDF.
  5. Entries must be postmarked/mailed on or before **March 25, 2011**.
  6. Entries become property of the UCDC and will not be returned to the author.

### **Judging**

UCDC Executive Committee judges each essay using criteria in the scoring sheet.

### **Notification of Winner**

Winner will be notified by mail and name posted on the UCDC website.

**Union County Democratic Committee**  
**Essay Scoring Sheet**

Instructions: Members of the Judging Committee shall rate each of the five categories 1 through 20, with 20 as the highest score.  
Add the five categories to reach the essay's final score.

**Essay Number** \_\_\_\_\_ (assigned to conceal names from the Judging Committee)

<b>I. Comprehension</b> (1-20 points) _____
How well does the essay reflect a comprehension of the essay question?
<b>II. Organization</b> (1-20 points) _____
Does the argument follow a logical and easily understood progression? Does corroborating evidence support the essay's main points?
<b>III. Conclusions</b> (1-20 points) _____
Do the conclusions follow logically from the argument? How compelling are the conclusions?
<b>IV. Creativity</b> (1-20 points) _____
Use of diverse resources, including interviews. Creative angle on the question.
<b>V. Writing</b> (1-20 points) _____
Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation. Concise language.
<b>Final Score</b> _____