



Tell Your Ontario Story  
Essay Contest  
Sponsored by the Friends of Ontario City Library

Essay Contest Rules and Information ([this information is for our webpage](#))

Submit a photograph and a corresponding essay that interprets the photograph as it relates to the writer's personal experience of Ontario. Winning essays will establish a compelling relationship between words and image.

Finalists will be invited to present their essays at the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Heritage at the Square community event, May 14, 2016, at Ontario Town Square.

Divisions:

Youth division – ages 7-12

Teen division – ages 13-19

Adult division – ages 20 and older

Guidelines:

- Essays should be between 250-500 words for the teen and adult division. Youth division essays should be 100-250 words.
- The completed essay entry form must accompany your essay. If the entrant is under the age of 18, the entry form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- Entries may be dropped off at the Ovitt Family Community Library or Colony High Branch Library locations.
- Incomplete entries will be automatically disqualified without notice.
- **Entries must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, April 4, 2016.**

Submission:

Entries may be mailed, submitted in person, or submitted electronically via email.

Mail submissions to:

Essay Contest  
Ontario City Library  
215 East C Street  
Ontario, CA 91764

Essays can be dropped off at both the Ovitt Family Community Library and the Colony High Branch Library locations. ([hyperlink these library locations to the locations page on the library's website](#))

To email submissions, essays must be attached to an email in MS Word or PDF format, and a signed entry form must be scanned and attached to the email. Images must be submitted in jpeg or tiff format, and should not exceed 10mb in size. Email submissions to [essaycontest@ontarioca.gov](mailto:essaycontest@ontarioca.gov).

Judging Criteria:

Essays will be judged on presentation, originality, and correctness by a panel of community members. Prizes will be awarded to finalists in each division. Finalists will be notified by Friday, May 6, 2016.

Prizes:

1<sup>st</sup> prize -- \$50 gift card and ribbon

2<sup>nd</sup> prize -- \$25 gift card and ribbon

3<sup>rd</sup> prize -- \$10 gift card and ribbon

Three additional finalists will receive a ribbon.

Entries will become the property of the Ontario City Library and will not be returned. The contents may be used for promotional purposes by the Ontario City Library and the Friends of the Ontario City Library without compensation to the entrant. Ontario City Library, Ontario Museum of History and Art, Ontario Recreation Department, and Ontario Planning Department staff and their families are not eligible to enter the contest.