

# Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians



Organized in 1894

## **2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest**

Topics include:

Level 1 – Grades 6-7-8 “Castles of Ireland – Location, Structure and Use”

Level 2 – Grades 9-10-11-12 “Mother Jones and the American Labor Movement”

All student papers submitted to be considered for awards in the 2013 National LAOH Irish Writing Contest must adhere to the information, rules and guidelines specified in the attachments:

1. 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Information
2. 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet
3. 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Writing Style Guidelines Summary Sheet
4. 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria

Please make sure your student understands clearly the information, rules, and guidelines required for this National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest as they may differ from those specified and/or required by schools and/or states for students participating in other writing contests.

### **2013 National LAOH Irish History writing Contest National Awards:**

<b>National Award</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$500	\$1,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$250	\$500
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$125	\$250
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100

Entries must be received no later than **January 31, 2013**

For questions or more information contact Noranne Duquette:

Tel: 413.210.3830

Email: [celticma5@msn.com](mailto:celticma5@msn.com)

Mail entries to:

Noranne Duquette  
13 Washington Ave  
Holyoke MA 01040-3536

## 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Information

**Introduction:** Each year the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. sponsors a National Irish History Writing Contest for students in Grades 6 through 12 in those states where the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. have established Divisions. The contest is comprised of two levels: LEVEL 1 is for students in Grades 6, 7, or 8 and LEVEL 2 is for students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12. The theme for each contest level is specified each year.

**Eligibility:** Students who are enrolled in parochial, private, or public schools or who are home-schooled are eligible to participate in the Irish History Writing Contest. Each student entering the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest should be given a copy of the Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet as well as a copy of the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria.

### **2012-2013 National LOAH Irish History Writing Contest Themes:**

<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>Grades 6-7-8</b>	<b>"Castles of Ireland – Location, Structure and Use"</b>
<b>LEVEL 2</b>	<b>Grades 9-10-11-12</b>	<b>"Mother Jones and the American Labor Movement"</b>

### **2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Information:**

1. Each student wishing to enter the Irish History Writing Contest is to follow the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest information, rules, and guidelines established each year. This contest year, students are able to select to follow either the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers Seventh Edition* or the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association Sixth Edition* as they complete their student papers. A writing style summary sheet is provided with the materials to be provided to interested students. Submitted student work will be judged at either LEVEL 1 (Grades 6, 7, 8) or at LEVEL 2 (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12) using the established LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest Information, Contest Rules, Guidelines, and Judging Criteria.
2. Student papers are first submitted to the LAOH Division Historian. Division winners are then forwarded to the County Board Historian in those states where County Boards exist. The County Board Historian then forwards County Board winners to the State Historian. If the state does not recognize the County Board structure, the Division Historian then forwards the Division winners directly to the State Historian. State Historians are to forward State winners to the National Historian.
3. All student papers must adhere to the specified LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest Information, Contest rules, and Guidelines in order to be forwarded to the next level. Although some schools and states may suggest or require students to use specific writing styles and frameworks, all students interested in participating in the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest must use the published LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest Information, Contest Rules, Guidelines, and Judging Criteria.
4. Each Division, County Board if applicable, and State Board is to establish its own award levels for both LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2 of the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest. The Divisions, County Boards if applicable and State Boards are encouraged establish their own criteria to determine whether to award a first, second, and third place award for LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2. It is optional at the Division, County Board if applicable, and State Board Level whether or not to establish a maximum of two (2) honorable mention awards.
5. The LAOH Irish Historian at each Level, utilizing a committee of qualified judges (persons with English and History backgrounds), will evaluate all LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2 submitted student works using the LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest Information, Contest Rules, Guidelines, and Judging Criteria established each year and shall determine the winners at the specific level for the 2012-2013 LAOH National Irish History Writing Contest.

### **2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Timelines:**

- Contest Opens September 2012
- Division Level Submissions are to be received by January 25, 2013
- County Level Submissions are to be received by February 22, 2013
- State Level Submissions are to be received by March 29, 2013
- National Level Submissions are to be postmarked by April 26, 2013



**2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest National Awards:**

National Award	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2
First Place	\$500	\$1,000
Second Place	\$250	\$500
Third Place	\$125	\$250
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100
Honorable Mention	\$50	\$100

**2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines:**

Students are expected to follow either the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers Seventh Edition* or the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association Sixth Edition* as a guide as they prepare their paper. Once the student selects his/her writing style guide, he/she is to use only that writing style in completing his/her student paper. Contest rules for students are provided on a separate sheet titled 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet. This information and the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Writing Style Guideline Summary Sheet should be provided to each student interested in participating in the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest.

**2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria:** Each paper is to be evaluated using the Judging Criteria established by the National Irish Historian. A separate Judging Criteria Sheet is provided with this information. The questions in each category on the Judging Criteria Sheet are suggested questions and are not limiting criteria for the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating each student paper. The judges should also review the 2012-2013 National LAOH Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guideline Sheet prior to evaluating each student paper.

The student's title page is to be removed and a number is to be given to the paper prior to the paper being given to the judges so that the judges are able to evaluate each paper without prejudice. Each paper will be evaluated in the following categories: (1) Comprehension with a point value of 1-30 points, (2) Organization with a point value of 1-20 points, (3) Conclusion with a point value of 1-15 points, (4) Creativity with a point value of 1-20 points, and (5) Writing with a point value of 1-15 points. A total of 100 points is available in the scoring procedure. At each level, the Irish Historian shall determine the recommended score to be achieved to move the student paper to the next level.

No markings should appear on the student work as it is being evaluated at each level. If a student paper is advanced to the next level with any markings, edits, scores, etc., it will be disqualified at the next level. A 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judge's Summary Sheet is also provided to assist each judge in recording student scores.

**Further Information Available:**

- Contact: Sarah Mains, National Irish Historian  
5723 Smithfield Street  
Boston, Pennsylvania 15135  
Phone: 412-751-5577  
Email: [sallymains@comcast.net](mailto:sallymains@comcast.net)
- Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. National Website: [www.ladiesaoh.com](http://www.ladiesaoh.com)
- Local Area Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. Division Irish Historian



## 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet

**Eligibility & Information:** Students in grades 6 through 12 enrolled in parochial, private, or public schools or who are home-schooled are eligible to participate in the 2011-2012 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. The National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest is comprised of two levels: LEVEL 1 is for students in Grades 6, 7, or 8 and LEVEL 2 is for students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.

Each year a specific theme is specified for the Irish History Writing Contest LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2. Each year specific information, rules, and guidelines are established for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest. The information, rules, and guidelines specified for this National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest may differ from those rules and guidelines that specific schools and/or states require for student writing contests.

All student papers submitted to participate in the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest must adhere to the specific information, rules, and guidelines provided by the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest.

### **2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Themes:**

<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>Grades 6-7-8</b>	<b>"Castles of Ireland" – Location, Structure and Use"</b>
<b>LEVEL 2</b>	<b>Grades 9-10-11-12</b>	<b>"Mother Jones and the American Labor Movement"</b>

### **2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Timelines:**

- Contest Opens September 2012
- Papers are to be submitted to the local Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. Division Irish Historian by January 25, 2013.

### **2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Rules and Guidelines:**

**Paper Length:** LEVEL 1 – Not less than 500 words or more than 1,000 words  
LEVEL 2 – Not less than 750 words or more than 1,500 words

**Writing Style:** A student may choose to follow the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Seventh Edition* or the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association Sixth Edition* as he/she complete his/her student paper. Once the student selects his/her writing style, he/she is to only use that writing style to complete his/her student paper.

- Make sure to acknowledge all resources that you use as you prepare your paper. According to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Seventh Edition*:  
Plagiarism involves two kinds of wrongs. Using another person's ideas, information, or expressions without acknowledging that person's work constitutes intellectual theft. Passing off another person's ideas, information, or expressions as your own to get a better grade or gain some advantage constitutes fraud (52).
- You may reference *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers Seventh Edition* by going to the Modern Language Association website: [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org) or by using the Purdue OWL MLA Formatting & Style Guide: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource>.
- You may reference the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association Sixth Edition* by going to the American Psychological Association website: [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org) or by using the Purdue OWL APA Formatting & Style Guide: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource>.

### **Writing Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:**

- Paper is to use double line spacing throughout the paper including the (1) title page, (2) body of paper, (3) quotations, and (4) sources used page (MLA -- Works Cited or APA -- References)
- Paper is to be completed using a word processor preferably, but a legibly hand-written papers is acceptable
- Paper is to be printed or hand-written on white paper, single-sided only



- Letter font is not to exceed 12 point if using a word processing software program or double line spaced if paper is hand-written
- Margins are to be one (1) inch at the (1) top of page, (2) bottom of page, (3) left side of page, and (4) right side of page
- Paragraphs are to be indented one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch from left margin, the indented line alerts the reader to a new paragraph as you use double lines spacing throughout the paper
- MLA Style—Quotations that run less than four (4) lines are incorporated in the body of the paragraph
- MLA Style—Quotations are to be indented one (1) inch from left margin if the quotation runs more than four (4) lines
- APA Style—Quotations less than 40 words are incorporated in the body of the paragraph
- APA Style—Quotations are to be indented one (1) inch from the left margin if the quotation runs 41+ words
- References are to be acknowledged in the body of the text using either the *MLA Style* or the *APA Style*
- Sources used are to be listed on a separate page after the body of the paper. The *MLA Style* uses the title *Works Cited* for the page. The *APA Style* uses the title *References* for the page. In both writing styles, the author's name is flush with the left margin and the second double line spacing is indented one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch from the left margin
- The *Works Cited* (MLA) or the *References* (APA) page should be numbered as the next page following the last page of the body of the paper. All entries should be in alphabetical order.
- The term "Bibliography" is not acceptable for the sources used page

**Additional Style Requirements to be used for the National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest:**

- Title Page is to be provided using double line spacing and must provide the student's name, address, city, state, zip code, phone number, school name, grade level, and number of words in paper exclusive of the *Works Cited/References* section
- The Title Page should not be numbered
- Page numbers are to be placed in the upper right hand corner at one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch from the top margin at the right margin; the student's name should not appear in front of the page number
- Page numbers should be consecutive beginning with the first page of the body of the paper through the *Works Cited/References* section of the paper
- Running Heads are not to be used
- Drawings, maps, charts, pictures, etc. are not to be included in the title page or the body of the paper
- Wikipedia is not to be used as a reference in this writing contest

**2012-2032 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest Judging Criteria:**

- Each paper will be evaluated in these categories with a maximum number of points allocated for each category: (1) Comprehension [30 points], (2) Organization [20 points], (3) Conclusion [15 points], (4) Creativity [20 points], and (5) Writing [15 points]
- Please refer to the Judging Criteria Sheet for assistance in learning how the judges will evaluate the student paper. The suggested questions are not limiting criteria for the judges, but rather they are provided to assist the judges with minimum criteria to use when evaluating the student paper
- The student's title page will be removed and the paper will be given a number prior to be given to the judges, so the judges are able to evaluate each paper without prejudice
- All papers submitted to the judges to be evaluated are to be without any markings
- Student papers will be disqualified if there are any markings on the paper as it is evaluated
- The Irish Historian at each level will determine the minimum score to be achieved for the student paper to be forwarded to the next level within the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. for further consideration in the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest



## 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest

### Student Writing Style Guidelines Summary Sheet

The following table may be used by students at both LEVEL 1 and LEVEL 2 as they prepare their student papers to be submitted in the 2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest. All student writers are to use either the MLA Writing Style or the APA Writing Style. All student writers are to select only one (1) Writing Style and should consistently adhere to the Writing Style that they select throughout their paper. All student papers are to include a Title Page, Body of Paper, and Sources Used Page (MLA titles this sources used page as Works Cited and APA titles this sources used page as References).

Topic	MLA Writing Style	APA Writing Style
Title Page	Double Space	Double Space
	Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Grade, school, Number of Words	Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Grade
	Page is not numbered	School, Number of Words
Body of Paper	Double Space	Page is not numbered
Margins	1" Left, Right, Top, Bottom	Double Space
Page Numbers	1/2" Top of Page Flush with Right Margin	1" Left, Right, Top, Bottom
	Student name should not appear with page number	1/2" Top of Page Flush with Right Margin
Header	No Running Head should be used	Student name should not appear with page number
Paragraph	Indented 1/2" from Left Margin	No Running Head should be used
Quotations	1-4 Lines in the body of the paper	Indented 1/2" from Left Margin
	5+ lines indented 1 inch from left margin	Less than 40 words in body of paper
References	Name of reference cited and page at end of sentence (Author page number = Smith 21).	41+ words indented 1 inch from left margin
Sources Used	Works Cited numbered as next page	Name of reference cited at end of the sentence (Author, Year, page number = Smith, 2012, p 21).
	References alphabetized	References numbered as next page
	author last name, first name. <i>title of work.</i>	References alphabetized
	city: publisher.	author last name, initials. (year). <i>title of work.</i>
Wikipedia	Not acceptable reference	city: publisher.
Drawings	Not acceptable	Not acceptable reference
Maps	Not acceptable	Not acceptable
Pictures	Not acceptable	Not acceptable
Writing Manual	<b>MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers</b>	Not acceptable
	<b>Seventh Edition</b>	<b>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association</b>
On-Line Guide	MLA Website: <a href="http://www.mla.org">www.mla.org</a>	<b>Sixth Edition</b>
	Purdue OWL MLA Formatting & Style Guide	APA Website: <a href="http://www.apastyle.org">www.apastyle.org</a>
	<a href="https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/">https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/</a>	Purdue OWL APA Formatting & Style Guide
		<a href="https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/">https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource</a>

**2012-2013 National LAOH Irish History Writing Contest**  
**Judging Criteria**

**COMPREHENSION:**     (1-30 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the writer substantiate a thorough understanding of the issues involved in the topic?

How well does the writer clearly distinguish in his/her discussion of the topic the thoughts, expressions, and ideas that are his/hers as opposed to those thoughts, expressions, and ideas of others?

How well does the writer demonstrate his/her ability to grasp the wider implications of the topic?

How well does the writer cite references used?

**ORGANIZATION:**     (1-20 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the writer organize his/her thoughts within the paragraphs?

How well does the writer express his/her thoughts in a clear, effective manner?

How well does the writer adhere to the *MLA Style* of writing requirements and the additional style requirements specified on the Student Information, Contest Rules, and Guidelines Sheet?

How well does the writer adhere to the minimum and/or maximum number of words to be used for a LEVEL 1 or for a LEVEL 2 paper?

**CONCLUSION:**     (1-15 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the writer's conclusion logically follow from the material presented?

How well does the writer's conclusion convince the reader?

**CREATIVITY:**     (1-20 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the writer utilize a variety of references to support his/her topic?

How well does the writer convey a creative approach in addressing his/her topic?

How well does the writer demonstrate an effective command of vocabulary as he/she expresses his/her thoughts?

**WRITING:**     (1-15 Points) \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the writer use correct spelling?

How well does the writer follow grammar rules?

How well does the writer use effective sentence structure?

How well does the writer use effective transitions to move from one thought to another thought?

**TOTAL SCORE:**     \_\_\_\_\_

The total score is the sum of the five (5) category scores.