



Junior Achievement™
of Orange County & Inland Empire



Essay Scholarship

Deadline: 5:00 PM, May 15, 2026

AWARD

- ✓ \$1,500 - First Place
- ✓ \$1,000 - Second Place
- ✓ \$750 - Third Place

CRITERIA

Open to all 2026 high school juniors & seniors who attend school in Orange County

ESSAY TOPIC

As the United States marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, how should young people play a role in shaping the next chapter of our nation's future?

Applicants should support their answer with an explanation of their reasoning.



INSTRUCTIONS

- Essays must be one (1) Full 8.5 x 11-inch page in length
- Each Submission must include the following:
 - > Cover Page with Essay title, student's full name, High School name, name of teacher or adult who provided the scholarship information (if applicable)
 - > Essay
 - > Bibliography

Please only include the requested information. Submissions containing supplemental or additional materials will not be considered. Essays must be submitted as a Word document or PDF format. **Email Completed essays in Word or PDF format to: Rebecca Theraniel: RTheraniel@jasocal.org | 949-999-3583**

Winning student will be notified & invited to the scholarship ceremony on June 17, 2026

**Student must be present to receive award.*

Junior Achievement is the nation's largest organization dedicated to educating students K-12 on financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship. Through JA programs, students enter our global economy as responsible, educated participants that have been given the knowledge and tools needed to pursue their economic, educational and professional goals.

The Old Courthouse Museum Society is a volunteer, non-profit organization that helps support the Old Orange County Courthouse. The Society supports business tours, school tours, and historical programs for the museum. We welcome new members who are interested in Orange County history.