



AKRON

2024 "Wonders of Plastics" Essay Contest

The Akron section of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) is pleased to announce the 2024 "Wonders of Plastics" essay contest.

Eligibility

The contest is open to all middle/junior high and high school students. The essay must be sponsored by one of the students' teachers.

Prizes

First place high school essay - \$100

First place middle/junior high school essay - \$100

The sponsoring teacher of each winning essay will receive \$25

The winning essays will be printed in the Akron Section's Newsletter.

Topics to consider

Advantages of plastics in food packaging

Creative use of recycled plastics

How plastics benefit humankind

How plastics improve our lifestyle

Plastics in the environment

Plastics usefulness in society

What plastics have done for me

Why the bad reputation of plastics is wrong

Submit your Essay to

Polymer Engineering
The University of Akron
Attn: John Fellenstein
250 S. Forge St
Akron, OH 44325-0301

Questions may be directed to the Akron SPE Education Committee, attention: John Fellenstein by phone or email

Tel: 330-972-6334 | **Fax:** 330-972-2624

Email: jfellenstein@uakron.edu

Entry must be postmarked by April 15, 2024!

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION

General

Length:	Between 500 and 1,000 words
Format:	Typewritten in English on 8 ½ x 11 paper, title to appear as heading on each page; no name on any page except the entry form that must accompany each essay; 1-inch margins minimum on all sides
Authors:	The essay may be written individually or co-authored by two students
Deadline:	April 15, 2024 (postmarked)

Organization

The organization structure of the essay should be “logical,” including the following considerations:

Introduction:	Optional
Thesis:	Several sentences
Development:	This section should be several paragraphs and should discuss the theme, analyze it, feature informal research about the theme, etc.
Conclusion:	This section should be at least one paragraph in which the author summarizes the ideas presented in the essay

Mechanics

Spelling should be correct; syntax should be readable; punctuation should be conventional. Essay should be free of sentence fragments. Diction (word choice) should be appropriate to the subject and the writer’s understanding of the topic. Point of view should be appropriate to the topic/subject and remain constant and consistent. A mixture of first and third person is acceptable if it is appropriate to the voice of the essay. However, the use of second person (“you” either stated directly or implied) will change the “voice” of the essay in a manner damaging to its effectiveness. Footnotes and references must be included when necessary.

Judging

Essays will be judged by a panel. In order to be judged, the essay must meet all the conditions as stated in the organization and mechanics above, with only incidental errors in mechanics. The essay must also meet the assigned minimum length and must be submitted following the prescribed format.

ENTRY FORM

Title: _____

By: _____
type or print

About the author(s)

Name(s) _____ age _____
_____ age _____

Grade in School _____

Address(es) _____

Phone Number(s) _____

E-mail(s) _____

About the school

School _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____

Teacher _____

Class _____

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