

# *24th Annual Agriculture Expressions Essay Contest*

Members will have the opportunity to voice their pride and concerns for agriculture and also enhance their writing skills by competing in the IYFA essay contest.

The top three placing essays will be recognized.

Please submit essays postmarked by February 1, 2024 to:

IYFA

P.O. Box 136

Brownstown, IN 47220

Or email to: indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com

## **Objectives:**

1. Provide an opportunity for both consumers and agriculturalists to better understand each other.
2. Promote agriculture and encourage more appreciation for the quality of food available in the United States.
3. Provide an opportunity for communication and interaction between consumers and agriculturalists.
4. Promote IYFA as a dynamic organization in the agricultural field.
5. Provide an educational opportunity for IFYA members to voice their pride and concerns for agriculture.
6. Enhance writing skills of participants while providing them an opportunity to voice their opinions on issues facing agriculture today.

## **Contestant eligibility:**

Any member or high school (9th-12th grade) FFA member who has not won the past two years of the IYFA Essay Contest will be eligible to participate.

## **Topic: Any agriculture topic**

Writers competing in the contest must submit a 500-1,000 word statement (essay), letter-to-the-editor of a local newspaper, or letter to an opinion setter (politician, chamber leader, etc.) on the above topic.

## **Scoring Criteria for Essay:**

**Content:** Consideration of other's viewpoints (15), Accuracy and convincing (20), Readability (15), **Subtotal (50)**

**Research:** Evidence to support statement (10), Bibliography and footnotes (10), **Subtotal (20)**

**Composition:** Grammar (10), Format and originality (10), Writing skills (10), **Subtotal (30)**

**Grand Total (100)**

**Penalty:** Five (5) points will be deducted from the total score for each 25 words under 500 or over 1,000 in essay itself.