



# Essay Contest 2012

**High School Category Essay Question:** Globalization is a process that opens diverse societies to economic, political and social influences from beyond their borders. How would you, as a foreign service youth, build on this process to improve communication between people from different cultures with young people from the United States?

**Middle School Category Essay Question:** Thanks to the world wide availability of e-mail, Facebook, Skype, YouTube and online games, Third Culture Kids can stay in touch with friends, classmates and family easily. Access to such varied forms of communication technology allows kids the freedom to reach out and maintain a wide range of relationships around the world. How can (or do) you as a foreign service youth make use of these communication tools to create deeper awareness across the globe.

In describing your efforts to facilitate greater cultural appreciation and understanding among young people, feel free to let your imagination roam and consider a range of alternatives-- including designing your own video game or using different types of software -- in your own approach.

## How to Enter:

- Open to all U.S Foreign Service youth in Middle and High School.
- Free to FSYF members. \$20 entry fee to non-members
- Complete an entry form, which can be found at [www.fsyf.org](http://www.fsyf.org)
- Write an essay in English that answers the topic question.
- Do not exceed 1,000 words.
- Email your entry form and essay to [fsyf@fsyf.org](mailto:fsyf@fsyf.org) or send by mail to: FSYF/McGrath Essay Contest, PO Box 39185, Washington, DC 20016
- Entries must be received by April 30, 2012
- For more information, email [fsyf@fsyf.org](mailto:fsyf@fsyf.org), phone 703-731-2960

## Prizes

### High School

**1st Place \$800**  
**2nd Place \$500**  
**3rd Place \$300**

### Middle School

**1st Place \$500**  
**2nd Place \$300**  
**3rd Place \$150**



## 2012 Essay Contest Entry Form

(Must be received by April 30, 2012)

### Topic Questions:

**For High School students:** Globalization is a process that opens diverse societies to economic, political and social influences from beyond their borders. How would you, as a foreign service youth, build on this process to improve communication between people from different cultures with young people from the United States?

**For Middle School students:** Thanks to the world wide availability of e-mail, Face book, Skype, YouTube and online games, Third Culture Kids can stay in touch with friends, classmates and family easily. Access to such varied forms of communication technology allows kids the freedom to reach out and maintain a wide range of relationships around the world. How can (or do) you as a Foreign Service Youth make use of these communication tools to create deeper awareness across the globe.

In describing your efforts to facilitate greater cultural appreciation and understanding among young people, feel free to let your imagination roam and consider a range of alternatives-- including designing your own video game or using different types of software -- in your own approach.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female

Essay Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Word Count: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Post (City and Country): \_\_\_\_\_

Agency of Employment and Official USG Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry is free to FSYP members. Membership is only \$30 per family for three years. Click the following link to join. <http://www.fsyp.org/membership/membership.html>. Alternatively, one can pay an entry fee of \$20 per person. Checks should be made payable to 'Foreign Service Youth Foundation' and mailed to FSYP, PO Box 39185, Washington, DC.**

1) My family are members of the Foreign Service Youth Foundation. Tick box

2) My family are not yet members but we have completed the application for membership and submitted payment. (Membership must be paid for and processed by the closing date of April 30, 2012.) Tick box

3) No, I am not a member of FSYP. I do not wish to join FSYP at this time and I will pay the \$20 application fee for my entry. I have sent my entry fee to FSYP, PO Box 39185, Washington, DC. (Entry fees must be received and processed by the closing date of April 30, 2012). Tick box

**Honor Statement:** *This essay represents my own work. I am eligible to participate in the FSYP/McGrath Essay Contest. I understand that my essay will become the property of FSYP to use at its discretion, that it will not be returned to me, and that the judges' decisions are final.*

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2012 Essay Contest Entry Form

(Must be received by April 30, 2012)

### Eligibility:

All foreign service high school and middle school students are eligible to participate. Participants must be members of the Foreign Service Youth Foundation on the closing date of April 30, 2012 or pay an entry fee of \$20. A 3-year family membership is only \$30. Visit the website [www.fsyf.org](http://www.fsyf.org) to join.

### Guidelines:

- Write your essay in English.
- Include a word count not to exceed 1,000 words, excluding a list of sources.
- Type your essay in 12-point Times New Roman font (or equivalent), double-space it, and include a 1" margin on all sides.
- Include a title, page numbers, and a list of all source material.
- Attach a completed and signed entry form to the front of your essay.
- Email or mail your essay to FSYP at the following address in time for it to arrive on or before April 30, 2012. Email is preferred and essays should be attached as electronic files in Microsoft Word format.

FSYP/McGrath Essay Contest  
PO Box 39185  
Washington  
DC 20016

**Email: [fsyf@fsyf.org](mailto:fsyf@fsyf.org)**

### Judging:

Judges will evaluate essays based on:

- Relevance: Does your essay answer the topic question?
- Persuasiveness: Did you persuade the judges that you are genuinely interested in the chosen issue?
- Style: Is your essay well written, well organized, well presented, and properly cited?

### Sponsor:

Cash prizes are made possible by McGrath Real Estate Services, a property management firm founded and owned by a Foreign Service family. McGrath employees understand the special needs of homeowners who are transferred abroad and want to feel good about their real estate choice. For more than 30 years, they have successfully represented Foreign Service Officers, World Bank executives and educated investors in every aspect of residential property management.

Website: [www.McGrathRealEstate.com](http://www.McGrathRealEstate.com)

### Prizes:

Winners will receive cash prizes and they will be honored at the Youth Awards Ceremony in Washington, DC in July.

#### High School:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$800  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$500  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$300

#### Middle School:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$500  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$300  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$150

Contact the FSYP at  
[fsyf@fsyf.org](mailto:fsyf@fsyf.org) or 703-731-2960  
for more information