

Texas Map Society Essay Contest

By Walt Wilson

The Texas Map Society is pleased to announce our first annual Essay Contest for undergraduate and graduate students from universities and colleges in Texas and adjoining states (New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana). Our purpose is to recognize outstanding students who can help share our excitement about the study, application, and appreciation of maps.

The essay should reflect original research and analysis that has not been previously published. It may include the output resulting from a community college, 4-year undergraduate, or graduate class assignment or individual research.

Suggested topics may include:

- History of Cartography
- History of an individual map or map-maker, cartographer
- Surveying, Geosciences/GIS (e.g., Historical Geography, Environmental Studies, Meteorology, Oceanography)
- Application of maps to understanding the cultural, geo-political, or physical characteristics of an area, era or event
- Visual Arts (e.g., engraving, map-making techniques, artistry)

Length: 1,000 to 2,000 words, plus footnotes and bibliography. Illustrations and footnotes required. Citation format: Chicago Manual of Style. Submission of an essay for consideration will also constitute permission to edit (as needed) and publish it in the Texas Map Society (TMS) newsletter, *The Neatline* and post it on the TMS website <https://texasmapsociety.org/>

All entrants must also include the following information:

Name: _____

Enrolled at: _____ (University or College)

Mailing Address: _____ Apt: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell and/or Home/Business phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Submit all entries to the editor of Texas Map Society *The Neatline* in Word (text) and JPG or TIF (image; 300 dpi minimum) formats at: editortms@aol.com

Deadline: December 1, 2018 (entries received after this date will not be eligible for consideration). A panel of TMS Members will select three winning essays: a first prize and two runners up. Essays will be judged on their originality, analytical insight, clarity of expression, and creative use cartography.

Prizes: All qualified entrants will receive a free one-year membership in the Texas Map Society. The first prize winner will receive a \$200 stipend and the two runners up will each receive a \$100 stipend. All winners will have their winning essays published in *The Neatline*, receive a two year TMS membership, and have the option of attending and presenting their paper at a future TMS event. The judges may select additional essays for honorable mention recognition, publication, and membership awards.

We look forward to hearing from interested students and are excited about helping to advance your academic, professional, and personal goals.

