



## **13th NASEA/ANMA Joint Convention**

September 1-3, 2017, Charlotte NC  
Hosted by Greater Charlotte Nepalese Association (GCNA)

“Civic Engagement and Youth Empowerment of Nepalese in America”

### **CALL FOR ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **Middle School Narrative Writing Contest (Grades 6 - 8)**

The Nepalese Association in Southeast America (NASEA) and the Association of Nepalese in Midwest America (ANMA) are announcing the annual student narrative writing contest open to all middle school students living in North America.

No matter who we are, no matter where we live and no matter what life we choose to lead, we are all Nepali in one way or another. Whether we are aware of it or not, we are shaped and influenced by our Nepali culture and tradition, which has evolved over thousands of years. Our roots lead us deeper to Nepal and nurture us through nutrient of Nepali culture and tradition.

The goal of this writing contest is to increase awareness of Nepali culture in order to preserve our heritage and ultimately gain a better understanding of ourselves.

#### **Memoir Title: My Volunteering Experience**

Write about your experiences of volunteering for a Nepali organization in the North America. By doing so what did you learn about Nepal and Nepali culture; and how it will empower you to be a better citizen in North America?

(Guideline: The Memoir should discuss about your experience of volunteering in North America)

#### **Awards & Recognitions:**

First, second, and third place winners will be awarded a prize of US \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively along with an award certificate. The top three narrative writings will also be published in NASEA's upcoming *Yeti View Point* magazine. The winners will be honored during NASEA/ANMA joint convention in Labor Day Weekend 2017 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Awards for the middle school writing contest is personally sponsored by Dr. Sanjeeb Sapkota and Ms.Sabina Sapkota of Lawrenceville, Georgia.

#### **Eligibility:**

1. The content is open to all North American Region middle school students enrolled in 2017-2018 and to all home-school students in grade equivalent to middle school (Grades 6 – 8).
2. All essays must reflect the contestant's own research and originality in writing.
3. Limit one submission per student.
4. Essay must be submitted online before deadline to all Judging Committee members.

**Essay specification:**

1. Written in English language.
2. Student's name, photo, email address and day-time phone number must appear at the top of the essay.
3. Document limits to 600 - 700 words. All words, except title and bibliography will be counted towards the word limits.
4. Type using MS-Word, double-spaced, page numbered.
5. Submit essay in MS-Word format to Judging Committee Chair and carbon copy to all committee members.

**Judging criteria:**

1. Scope of research (20%)
2. Organization of content (15%)
3. Originality (20%)
4. Logic development (10%)
5. Spelling and grammar (10%)
6. Clarity and sincerity of thoughts (10%)
7. Completeness (15%)

A panel of official essay contest committee will conduct judging. The committee's decision will be the final decision.

**Timeline:**

1. Essay submission deadline – August 14, 2017.
2. Winner notification – August 20, 2017.
3. Winners recognition – During cultural program of 13<sup>th</sup> NAsEA/ANMA joint convention.

**The judging committee**

- Dr. Sushama Pradhan, NC, USA – Chair: [spradhan@gmail.com](mailto:spradhan@gmail.com)
- Dr. Niroj Basnet, GA, USA – Co-Chair: [nirojbasnet@gmail.com](mailto:nirojbasnet@gmail.com)
- Mr. Binod Basnet, FL, USA – Member: [basbin123@gmail.com](mailto:basbin123@gmail.com)
- Mr. Jyoti Vaidya, ON, Canada – Member: [jyotivaidya@hotmail.com](mailto:jyotivaidya@hotmail.com)
- Ms. Pratistha Pradhan, NC, USA – Member: [pratistha.pradhan@duke.edu](mailto:pratistha.pradhan@duke.edu)