

WHAT IS THE WHITE ROSE ORGANIZATION?



White Rose founders Hans and Sophie Scholl



White Rose Memorial, Munich, Germany

The White Rose organization, including brother and sister Hans and Sophie Scholl, felt compelled to protest the frightening environment in which they lived and studied. Their protests took the form of essays published in leaflets that were distributed anonymously in Munich, and then later mailed to persons selected from the phone book. These essays challenged citizens to resist the Nazi policies and encouraged non-violent political dissent. The White Rose members knew that to be silent in the face of evil was to surrender to it, encourage it, and enable it to grow stronger. Thus, their movement united others to resist Nazi tyranny by striving to eradicate the “face of evil” before it destroyed more innocent lives. According to an exhibit on display at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., “Of all the groups in Germany that opposed Hitler’s dictatorship, only one, code-named ‘White Rose,’ openly protested the Nazi genocide against the Jews.”

17TH WHITE ROSE MEMORIAL ESSAY CONTEST

The Council for Holocaust Education’s Annual White Rose Memorial Essay Contest

For all Oklahoma Middle and High School Students

Submission deadline: Monday, March 3, 2025

2025 ESSAY PROMPT:

Every person has a unique life story, including survivors and victims of the Holocaust. Using the *Children Of The Holocaust* database from The Museum of Tolerance, please choose a child and write a biographical essay about their life. Basic biographical information is provided about each child, but your research should go further. Investigate the town they were born in, key historical events they were part of, the concentration camps they were imprisoned in, their life after the war, etc.

Link to the *Children Of The Holocaust* database from The Museum of Tolerance can be found at www.JewishTulsa.org/WhiteRose



The Jewish Federation of Tulsa
Council for Holocaust Education
2021 E 71st. St. Tulsa, OK 74136
918-495-1100 | JewishTulsa.org



MIDDLE SCHOOL ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:

Length: 500-1000 words

Eligibility: Oklahoma Students in grades 6-8 at the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year may participate.

Students may win an award only once in each school category. Use entry form attached, if paper submission.

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:

Length: 750-1500 words

Eligibility: Oklahoma Students in grades 9-12 at the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year may participate.

Students may win an award only once in each school category. Use entry form attached, if paper submission.

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST:

- Addresses contest topic
- Descriptive title
- Required length
- Typed, double-spaced, 1 inch margins, Times New Roman font, on one side of standard white paper
- Your name, school, or city DOES NOT appear anywhere on the essay
- Parenthetical citations of sources used (Required for HS; MS recommended)
- Standardized works cited page with at least 3 reputable sources
- Completed and submitted entry form

WHITE ROSE AWARDS:

Ten students from grades 6-8 and from grades 9-12 will be honored with a symbolic white rose. From these top essays, first, second, and third place cash prizes will be awarded as follows:

Finalists will be selected and the following prizes awarded in the **Middle School** and **High School** categories.

First Place: \$150 Second place: \$100 Third place: \$50

Teachers of finalists will also receive the following prizes.

First Place: \$100 Second place: \$50 Third place: \$25

Winning entries are eligible to be published in the Tulsa Jewish Review, a monthly publication of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Each essay will be judged using the following criteria:

- Depth of research
- Quality of writing
- Fulfillment of the prompt requirements (Essays not addressing ENTIRE prompt will be disqualified)
- Accuracy of factual information
- Responsible citation of sources consulted
- Fulfillment of contest requirements concerning topic, eligibility, guidelines, and signature

SUBMISSIONS:

Sponsoring teachers may hand deliver, submit by US mail, or electronically submit their students' essays. A completed entry form for each student's submission must also be included.

These must arrive no later than Monday, March 3, 2025.

Essays should be delivered or mailed to:

The White Rose Essay Contest

Jewish Federation of Tulsa

2021 East 71st Street, Tulsa, OK 74136

Essays may also be submitted electronically at:

www.jewishtulsa.org/whiterose

For more information, contact Sofia Thornblad at **curator@jewishmuseum.net**.



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White Rose Essay Contest Entry Form

All fields must be completed for eligibility to enter the contest.

Student's Name _____

Student's Email _____

Student's Phone Number _____

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Email _____

Parent's Phone Number _____

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Email _____

Student's School _____

Student's Grade _____

Essay Title _____

Student's Pledge: *"The work in this paper is original and represents my own research, thinking, and writing on this subject."*

Student's Signature _____

Teacher's Pledge: *"I have read this paper and attest to its originality."*

Teacher's Signature _____



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