



NJ High School Students of Hellenic descent are invited to submit an essay that will be judged by the NJ Hellenic American Heritage Commission and the NJ Department of Education.

> The winning author will receive the 2023 NJ State Hellenic Commission Pericles Scholarship Award of \$2,000

Awards will be presented at the NJ State Greek Independence Day Celebration on March 18th at 2:00 at Drew University in Madison, NJ

## ~ Pericles Scholarship Essay ~

Population realignment is being experienced around the world at an increasing rate and the topic of immigration has become commonplace in the national dialogue. As United States has been the destination for immigrants seeking a better life since its inception, the American population has always been comprised of a large number of diverse communities.

Like other ethnic groups, citizens of Hellenic backgrounds have assimilated into the fabric of the American community; but it has not been without serious challenges. In the 1920's, for example, Greek immigrants were brutally targeted by the KKK and other discriminatory groups. Half a century later, displaced Cypriots migrated to the safety of the United States as refugees after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. And today, thousands of ethnic Greek Ukrainians have left everything behind as Odessa and Mariupol have been decimated.

Incorporating the Hellenic experience, how do you believe the United States should address the issue of immigration? How do immigrants impact the United States? What can communities do to address continuing population realignment? What benefits and challenges does immigration present to communities and the nation?

Submit your response of less than 1,000 words before March 4, 2023

To apply, click here or visit the address below: https://www.state.nj.us/state/hellenic-essay-contest.shtml

For further information, please contact: AFanikos@hotmail.com