

**Attn: Wisconsin High School Students**

# Win \$\$\$ for Essays on Labor History!

The Wisconsin Labor History Society announces its Kenneth A. Germanson High School Essay Contest for the 2025-2026 School Year for Wisconsin high school students, grades 9-12. Win cash prizes up to \$500. Write essays of about 750 words on the topic:

**“Unions are good for my family, my community, and my nation because...”**

## Students could win cash prizes:

**First place, \$500; second place \$300; third place: \$200;**

**honorable mention (up to five) \$100.**

## What to write about . . .

Students are encouraged to write an essay that reflects on why unions have been important in the past and why they might be important today. They can talk to their teachers, family members who have been union members, or do independent research to show how unions have fought for democracy, equality, or other important American ideals. Visit [www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org) for information and ideas.

## Contest Rules

Essays should be approximately 750 words in length. They will be judged on understanding, evidence of original research, writing style and significance. Essays must be submitted by email in Microsoft Word or as PDF file.

Submissions must include a cover sheet with the following information: Your name, address, home telephone number, email address, grade in school, name and address of your school, and, if you were encouraged or assisted by a teacher, the teacher's name. Also, list your family's union membership, if applicable. Be sure to let us know how you heard about the contest! If you have any questions, contact: Harvey J. Kaye at [kayeh@uwgb.edu](mailto:kayeh@uwgb.edu).

**Deadline for submissions is Feb. 15, 2026.**

**Send your essays to the following email address: [info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org](mailto:info@wisconsinlaborhistory.org).**

**Put “essay contest” in subject line.**

## **SPONSORED BY: WISCONSIN LABOR HISTORY SOCIETY**

**(Affiliated with the Wisconsin Historical Society; endorsed by Wisconsin State AFL-CIO)**

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