



Alfred Shaker Museum

Essay Contest

Give Us a Few Words ...

The Friends of Alfred Shaker Museum (FASM) announce our fifth essay contest in two divisions: Grades 7 & 8 and Grades 9 & 10. Prizes of \$100 and \$75 will be awarded in each Division at the judges' discretion.

Your essay – choose one topic below -- should be 1,000-1,200 words and qualify as non-fiction. Reference your sources scrupulously at the end of your paper. Pictures may be included but photos or artwork from the internet must be public domain or used only with permission from the webmaster and your paper must “stand by itself” – that is, without the photos or art. On the cover sheet, give your name, address, phone number, and email address, your school's name or state that you are home schooled, grade level, and title.

Submit your contest entry to FASM at our web site at www.alfredshakermuseum.org, preferably in Microsoft Word with one-inch ragged right margins and 12-point Times Roman type, by March 1, 2015 at midnight. All papers become the property of FASM; we will archive them and may publish them. Winners will be announced in early April and awards presented soon thereafter at a public event. Judges' Criteria include originality, creativity, content, range of sources, adherence to instructions, spelling, and grammar. You may use our museum's library to research your topic if you make an appointment to do so by calling Mary Lee Dunn Maguire at 324-7088.

Choose One of These Topics

- Profile one of these Alfred Shakers: Joseph Buzzell, Frank Libby, John Vance, Joseph Brackett, Henry Green, Harriet Coolbroth.
- What is the legacy of Alfred's Shaker community?
- What is the Shaker contribution to Alfred?
- What caused the decline of the Shakers in Alfred and elsewhere?
- Tell us your suggestions for events and activities at Alfred Shaker Museum to tell the Shaker story.
- Dining with the Shakers
- What do you like about FASM's new video?
- How the Shakers earned a living in Alfred.



Judges: Elizabeth DeWolfe, Harland Eastman, Alfred Carlson