

# Essay Contests

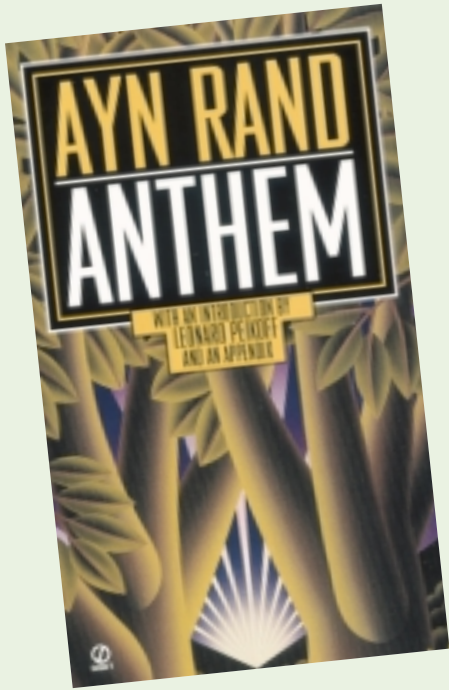
**\$62,000**  
in Prize Money

Now awarding finalist and semifinalist prizes.

502 total prizes!

**Top Prize**  
**\$10,000**

<http://www.aynrand.org/contests/>



**For 9th and 10th Graders:**  
9th Annual Essay Contest on Ayn Rand's Novelette

## ANTHEM

Entry Deadline: April 2, 2001

**First Prize: \$2,000 Cash Award**  
**10 Second Prizes: \$500 Cash Awards**  
**20 Third Prizes: \$200 Cash Awards**  
**45 Finalist Prizes: \$50 Cash Awards**  
**175 Semifinalist Prizes: \$30 Cash Awards**

**For 11th and 12th Graders:**  
16th Annual Essay Contest on Ayn Rand's Novel

## THE FOUNTAINHEAD

Entry Deadline: April 16, 2001

**First Prize: \$10,000 Cash Award**  
**5 Second Prizes: \$2,000 Cash Awards**  
**10 Third Prizes: \$1,000 Cash Awards**  
**35 Finalist Prizes: \$100 Cash Awards**  
**200 Semifinalist Prizes: \$50 Cash Awards**

### Anthem — Topics

Select ONE of the following three topics:

1. *Anthem* depicts a world of the future, a collectivist dictatorship in which even the word "I" has vanished. How does this collectivist system maintain its power and control over its subjects? Discuss the hero's struggle to free himself from collectivism. What makes his victory possible?
2. For **each** of the following quotes, explain its role in the story and its wider significance:
  - a. "We know that we are evil, but there is no will in us and no power to resist it."
  - b. "It is my mind which thinks, and the judgment of my mind is the only searchlight that can find the truth."
  - c. "The word 'We'. . . must never be placed first within man's soul."
3. Compare the story of Adam and Eve's expulsion from the Garden of Eden to the story of Prometheus and Gaea in *Anthem*. For what "sins" was each condemned?

### Anthem — Judging

Essays will be judged on both style and content. Judges will look for writing that is clear, articulate and logically organized. Winning essays must demonstrate an outstanding grasp of the philosophic meaning of *Anthem*.

### Anthem — Rules

- Entrant must be in the ninth or tenth grade.
- **To avoid disqualification, a stapled cover sheet MUST include:** your name and address; your e-mail address (if available); the name and address of your high school; topic selected (#1, 2 or 3 from list above); your current grade level and (optional) the name of the teacher most helpful in the development of your writing skills.
- Essay must be **no fewer than 600 and no more than 1,200 words** in length, and must be typewritten and double-spaced. One entry per student, please.
- Essay must be solely the work of the entrant.
- Essay must be postmarked no later than **April 2, 2001**.
- Decisions of the judges are final.
- Employees of the Ayn Rand Institute, its board of directors and their immediate family members are not eligible for this contest.
- All entries become the property of the Ayn Rand Institute and will not be returned.
- Winners will be notified by June 1, 2001; finalists, semifinalists and all other participants will be notified via e-mail by June 5, 2001, and/or by mail by July 15, 2001.

### Anthem — To Enter

Mail your essay with cover sheet to:

**Anthem Essay Contest**  
The Ayn Rand Institute  
P.O. Box 6099  
Inglewood, CA 90312

- If you wish to verify our receipt of your essay, please paperclip a stamped, self-addressed postcard to your essay.
- For information on how to submit your essay by e-mail, visit <http://www.aynrand.org/contests/email.html>

### The Fountainhead — Topics

Select ONE of the following three topics:

1. *The Fountainhead* offers a vision of a totally independent man, an uncompromising innovator "standing alone against the world." How do the events of the story dramatize the conflict between independence and conformity? Explain how the novel's message is opposed to the conventional view that life requires compromise.
2. Discuss the meaning and implications of **each** of the following quotes:
  - a. *Dominique*: "Roark, I can accept anything, except what seems to be the easiest for most people: the half-way, the almost, the just-about, the in-between."
  - b. *Keating*: "How do you always manage to decide?"  
*Roark*: "How can you let others decide for you?"
  - c. *Roark (to Keating)*: "To sell your soul is the easiest thing in the world. That's what everybody does every hour of his life. If I asked you to keep your soul—would you understand why that's much harder?"
  - d. Select a fourth quote from the novel that deals with the novel's theme and discuss the meaning and implications of that quote.
3. In his climactic courtroom speech Howard Roark states, "the creator's concern is the conquest of nature. The parasite's concern is the conquest of men." Explain this quote's relationship to the theme as dramatized through the characters of Howard Roark, Peter Keating and Ellsworth Toohey.

### The Fountainhead — Judging

Essays will be judged on both style and content. Judges will look for writing that is clear, articulate and logically organized. Winning essays must demonstrate an outstanding grasp of the philosophic and psychological meaning of *The Fountainhead*.

### The Fountainhead — Rules

- Entrant must be in the eleventh or twelfth grade.
- **To avoid disqualification, a stapled cover sheet MUST include:** your name and address; your e-mail address (if available); the name and address of your high school; topic selected (#1, 2 or 3 from list above); your current grade level and (optional) the name of the teacher most helpful in the development of your writing skills.
- Essay must be **no fewer than 800 and no more than 1,600 words** in length, and must be typewritten and double-spaced. One entry per student, please.
- Essay must be solely the work of the entrant.
- Essay must be postmarked no later than **April 16, 2001**.
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- All entries become the property of the Ayn Rand Institute and will not be returned.
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### The Fountainhead — To Enter

Mail your essay with cover sheet to:

**The Fountainhead Essay Contest**  
The Ayn Rand Institute  
P.O. Box 6004  
Inglewood, CA 90312

- If you wish to verify our receipt of your essay, please paperclip a stamped, self-addressed postcard to your essay.
- For information on how to submit your essay by e-mail, visit <http://www.aynrand.org/contests/email.html>

### Free to Educators

Please send me — at no cost — a kit containing:

- The teacher's guides to *Anthem* and *The Fountainhead*.
- Three additional copies of this flyer.

■ Please specify if more teacher's guides or flyers are needed.

■ **Send your request over the Web:**

Visit <http://www.aynrand.org/contests/kit/> and fill out the form. Allow two weeks for delivery.

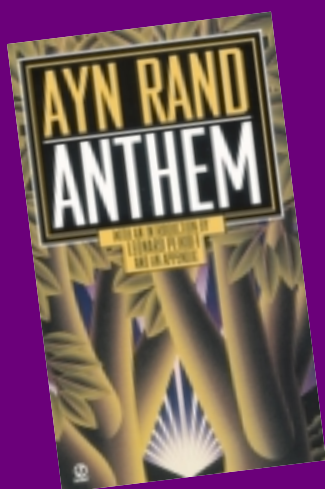
■ **Send your request by mail:** Peel off your address label and place in the box below. Mail to the address on the other side of this coupon. Allow four weeks for delivery.

FREE Teacher's Guides  
\$62,000 in Prize Money  
on Ayn Rand's  
**ANTHEM and THE FOUNTAINHEAD**  
**Essay Contests**

<http://www.aynrand.org>

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# Essay Contests

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502 Prizes

### Top Prize \$10,000

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**For 9th and 10th Graders:**  
9th Annual Essay Contest on Ayn Rand's Novelette

## ANTHEM

Entry Deadline: April 2, 2001

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16th Annual Essay Contest on Ayn Rand's Novel

## THE FOUNTAINHEAD

Entry Deadline: April 16, 2001

## 2000 Prize Winners

### ANTHEM

#### First Prize:

**Kate Stafford**, Dighton Rehoboth Regional H.S., N. Dighton, MA

#### Second Prizes:

**Daniel Findlay**, Grand Junction H.S., Grand Junction, CO

**Ian Ehrlich**, Bloomingdale H.S., Valrico, FL

**Ariel Anderson**, University H.S., Chicago, IL

**Elinathan Ohiomoba**, Milton Academy, Milton, MA

**Justin Fowler**, Millbrook H.S., Raleigh, NC

**Rebecca Knapp**, Acad. for the Adv. of Science and Tech., Hackensack, NJ

**Kaitlin McDonough**, Randolph H.S., Randolph, NJ

**Allison Massa**, Dover Area H.S., Dover, PA

**Rose Weill**, Thomas Jefferson H.S. for Science and Tech., Alexandria, VA

**Elaine Hart**, Mount Rainier H.S., Des Moines, WA

#### Third Prizes:

**Allison Davis**, West H.S., Anchorage, AK

**Ben Whatley**, Dothan H.S., Dothan, AL

**Corinn Kopczyński**, L.A. County H.S. for the Arts, Los Angeles, CA

**Tania Henetz**, Junipero Serra H.S., San Diego, CA

**Michael Le**, University of San Diego H.S., San Diego, CA

**Braden Meason**, Grand Junction H.S., Grand Junction, CO

**Chika Anekwe**, Bunnell H.S., Stratford, CT

**Marcus Johnson**, Jenkins H.S., Savannah, GA

**Rachel Charity Mazique**, John Hersey H.S., Arlington Heights, IL

**Hilary Queen**, East Gaston H.S., Gastonia, NC

**Meg Slachetka**, Hackettstown H.S., Hackettstown, NJ

**Melissa Brody**, Benjamin N. Cardozo H.S., Bayside, NY

**Jessica Kenyon**, Marathon Central School, Marathon, NY

**Rachael Tlumak**, Miller Place H.S., Miller Place, NY

**Emily Smith**, Chagrin Falls H.S., Chagrin Falls, OH

**Stacey Moritz**, Maumee H.S., Maumee, OH

**Jennifer Sherwood**, Mercersburg Academy, Mercersburg, PA

**Leath Bing**, White Station H.S., Memphis, TN

**Aaron Heckelman**, Mirabeau B. Lamar H.S., Houston, TX

**Jason Noel Mills**, Norfolk Collegiate School, Norfolk, VA

### THE FOUNTAINHEAD

#### First Prize:

**Evan MacDonald**, Distance Education School of the Kootenays, Nelson, BC, Canada

#### Second Prizes:

**Chris Hale**, Deland H.S., Deland, FL

**Robyn Schroeder**, Valparaiso H.S., Valparaiso, IN

**Leo Rini**, Univ. of Detroit Jesuit H.S., Detroit, MI

**Justin Biggs**, Raritan H.S., Hazlet, NJ

**Christopher Freiman**, Central Bucks H.S. West, Doylestown, PA

#### Third Prizes:

**Ryan W. Beneke**, Escondido H.S., Escondido, CA

**Eumpi Cho**, Los Altos H.S., Los Altos, CA

**Tiffany K. Ng**, Mercy H.S., San Francisco, CA

**Rohit Shetty**, Athens Academy, Athens, GA

**Bridget Stankiewicz**, Lyons Township H.S., La Grange, IL

**Anna Sharova**, Parkville H.S., Baltimore, MD

**Jonathan Skolnick**, Roslyn H.S., Roslyn Heights, NY

**Rachel Shevchek**, Edward S. Marcus H.S., Flower Mound, TX

**Brandon Westerheim**, Garland H.S., Garland, TX

**Heather Anne Kidd**, Nelson County H.S., Lovingston, VA

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<http://www.aynrand.org>

Mail this coupon to:

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P.O. Box 6004 Inglewood CA 90312

Additional educational resources are available on the Web at: <http://www.aynrand.org/contests/>