



La Vernia Legacies Essay Contest for \$1000 Scholarship

This scholarship is sponsored by the
La Vernia Historical Association
LaVerniaHistory.com

Essay Topic:

“The Story of a True La Vernia Legacy”

Eligible Applicants: Students in the 12th grade (either LVISD, private or home-school) who live in LVISD. Proof of residency may be requested.

Award: One winner will be selected for a \$1000 college scholarship to be paid directly to their college/university/trade school.

Deadline: April 17, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.

Applicants may be requested to meet with the LVHA Scholarship Committee to discuss their essay.

The LVHA reserves the right to publish any submitted essay in part or in whole, with full and proper credit given to the author. The interviewed person must sign the Authorization Form.

Important Instructions: READ CAREFULLY.

The COVER PAGE of your essay document must include: Your name, address, email, phone number, name and email of your school counselor, NAME OF YOUR SUBJECT, and the university/trade school you will attend. Do not include your name in the essay, captions, or bibliography. Email the cover page and essay separately in an editable format such as Word. Send the authorization form as a PDF. Send all to: info@LaVerniaHistory.com before the deadline. We will confirm receipt of your entry.

REQUIREMENTS—READ CAREFULLY

- ◆ Interview a person, age 65 or over, who has lived in La Vernia for 20 years or more.
- ◆ Your subject’s name must be in your essay title.
- ◆ Your subject must sign the Authorization form.
- ◆ Use at least 10 of the questions on the back of this flyer to interview your subject
- ◆ A bibliography is required. If you use AI, you must reference it in your bibliography.
- ◆ **INCLUDE** at least one reference source about something mentioned in the interview, such as an article about a world or local event. Be sure to include all sources in your required bibliography.
- ◆ In an essay of 500-700 words, double spaced, compose an interesting and original paper that tells the story about your subject’s life in La Vernia based on your interview and research.
- ◆ Provide a word count for the essay only, at the BOTTOM of your cover page.
- ◆ Use proper English, grammar, punctuation, and spelling in a well-organized essay. You may have a teacher or parent proofread your essay. Be sure to acknowledge your proof-reader in your bibliography.
- ◆ Comment on how your subject’s story affects your own feelings about La Vernia.
- ◆ Optional: You may attach 1 or 2 captioned .jpg photos of your subject plus one photo of you with your subject. Insert the photos in your email. Do NOT put your name in the photo captions.
- ◆ **TEN Extra Points will be awarded** for 1 or more hours of volunteer work at the La Vernia Heritage Museum; which is usually open on the 1st Sunday of the month from Noon to 3pm. Make arrangements for volunteering by calling 210-392-3281 at least one day in advance.

All requirements should be met to avoid disqualification.

Questions for interview

You may provide these questions to the interviewee **in advance** to give them time to think about the answers. Try to keep the interview no longer than 45 minutes so the interviewee does not get too tired. Recording the interview is a great idea.

You must use at least 10 of these questions to interview your subject.

1. When did your ancestors arrive in Texas?
2. How did you come to live in La Vernia?
3. What are the names of your parents, your spouse, your children?
Please include your mother's maiden name, if you wish.
4. Are you a Veteran? What branch? Where did you serve? Is your name on the La Vernia Veterans Memorial?
5. What was, or is, your occupation? If you volunteer now; what do you do?
6. A. If you attended school in La Vernia, talk about a memorable school day, activity, and/or teacher.
B. If you did not attend school in La Vernia, describe a few favorite moments in school.
7. If you went to a university or trade school; where did you go? What certifications did you receive?
8. Describe a person in La Vernia who sticks out in your memory and why.
9. Describe a family tradition or event you especially enjoyed in La Vernia.
10. What did you do in La Vernia for fun in the early years you lived here?
11. How did major events change your life in La Vernia?
(examples: floods, economic changes, deaths, war, drought)
12. What personal accomplishments you are especially proud of?
13. What other memories of La Vernia stand out in your memory?



Authorization Form

I. The person being interviewed (the essay subject)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Date of Interview: _____

Location of Interview: _____

I understand the La Vernia Historical Association may use the material in this essay in part or in whole for publications created by the La Vernia Historical Association only.

Signature _____

Date signed _____

II. The student conducting the interview

I understand the La Vernia Historical Association may use the material in this essay in part or in whole for publications created by the La Vernia Historical Association only. I will provide a copy of my essay to my interviewee.

Signature _____

Date signed _____

_____ Date _____
Signature of the Parent, required if student is under 18 years of age.