** Delta Epsilon Sigma**

**Fitzgerald Undergraduate Writing Competition Contest**

Open to undergraduates (members or non-members) in an institution that has a chapter of the society

**Submission and Rubric Page - Fall 2024**

**General Guidelines:** The ﬁrst phase of the competition, conducted by local chapters, may sponsor its own contest to choose submissions. A chapter will forward to the national competition only one entry in each category. Preparatory to student revision, editorial comment and advice by a faculty mentor is expected and appropriate, as is correction of grammatical and mechanical (spelling, punctuation) errors, as long as the student completes the final version. Chapter advisors as well as faculty mentors are expected to take an active role in providing additional comments to students; **they should approve and send all entries via email to the Executive Director of Delta Epsilon Sigma (DESNational@neumann.edu) by December 1.**  Final judging and the announcement of the results will take place not later than May 1st of the following year. Winners will be notiﬁed through the ofﬁce of the local chapter advisor.

* Prose manuscripts of 1500-5000 words should be typed, double-spaced, in Word format, and sent electronically in 12 point Times New Roman font (no PDFs).
* Number all pages, and relegate notes to the submission's back matter as endnotes (no footnotes).
* Include just one space between words and sentences.
* Provide an additional cover page (separate from this submissions page) with title, name, university, and home address.
* The page following the cover (the beginning of the actual text) should contain only the title and no other heading. The author’s name should not appear after the cover page to assure anonymity during judging.
* Do not include headers or footers.
* Proofread carefully to assure that all guidelines are followed and that conventions of grammar and punctuation, in addition to the use of language and style (such as avoiding excessive wordiness and redundancies), reflect the standards of your college or university.
* The *DES Journal* reflects Catholic values. Gratuitous use of profanity or vulgarity would not impress the judges, and the submission containing such language will not merit publication.

**Title: *Place your title here***

**Category: *Circle or clearly mark one of these five categories, and check that each element listed appears in the submission:***

1. **Poetry**

* Writing in this category should show original poetry, either in verse or prose form.
* A long poem should be submitted singly.
* Shorter lyrics may be submitted in groups of two or three.

1. **Short Fiction**

* Writing in this category should be original fiction, such as short stories or stand-alone sections of longer pieces.
* Fiction should total 1500-5000 words, either in a single work or, in cases of very short pieces, in groups of two or three.

1. **Creative Non-Fiction/Personal Essay**

* Writing in this category should communicate some dimension of the worldview or feelings of the writer.
* Writing should be true—as affirmed by the writer—but may be creative in structure or form and may make use of character development, dialogue, or other techniques of creative writing.
* Creative nonfiction pieces or personal essays should total 1500-5000 words, either in a single work or, in cases of very brief pieces, in groups of two or three.

1. **Critical/Analytical Essay**

* Writing in this category should investigate a text, or a social or scholarly issue, through a critical lens.
* Examples of this type of writing may include textual interpretation or expository or argumentative essays in which original research is not the primary aim.
* Essays in this category should total 1500-5000 words.
* Provide appropriate in-text citations for all direct or indirect (paraphrased) quotations.
* Integrate brief quotations properly with correct punctuation.

1. **Scholarly Research – *There are Two Categories***
   1. **Non-Empirical Humanities -** Writing in this category should present primary or secondary research that provides and elucidates some original insight on a social, ethical, cultural, or humanistic question.
   2. **Empirical Sciences and the Social Sciences –** Writing in this category demands precision (the precise use of words and phrases), clarity and economy because the writer is communicating highly technical information to others who might, or might not, be as knowledgeable.

* Judging criteria include the presentation, quality, and depth of the piece and the manifestation of correctly performed research.
* Documentation should follow one of the established scholarly style-sheets (MLA or APA).
* An abstract (named "Abstract") must be placed at the head of the text, below the paper's title.
* The length of the paper should total 1500-5000 (maximum) words.
* Provide appropriate**in-text citations** (correlated to a "Works Cited" page at the rear of the paper) for all direct and indirect (paraphrased) quotations.
* Integrate brief quotations properly with correct punctuation; avoid long, block quotations.
* **Other references (such as comments or informational notes) must appear as endnotes, not footnotes.**
* **Additional details for these two categories are provided on pp 43-44 of the Spring 2022 DES Journal (available on the DES website** [**www.deltaepsilonsigma.org**](http://www.deltaepsilonsigma.org) **under the Journal Tab.**

Please check all pertaining elements of the submission and sign below.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_