



Please join the Historic Preservation Board and the Mesa Historic Preservation Office for the

2020-2021 MESA HISTORICAL FICTION ESSAY AND VIDEO CONTEST

OPEN FROM NOVEMBER 02, 2020 to MARCH 05, 2021

Essay and Video Topics

Students can practice their writing or video editing skills and learn more about Mesa's history. Contest entries will be a historical fictional story on one of these three topics:

1. How did water help mesa grow? What role did water play in the growth of Mesa?
2. How did the Air Force Bases influence Mesa during World War II? What role did they play
3. Mesa's first: schools, families, grocery stores, hardware stores, or post office (choose two)

OR: students may choose to conduct an oral history interview of a Mesa citizen aged 60 or older who grew up in Mesa, and recount their story.

Eligibility Requirements

All Mesa students in 4th through 6th grade are eligible for the essay contest. Mesa students in 6th through 12th grade are eligible for the video contest. All students must reside in the City of Mesa.

Awards

Every contestant will receive a certificate of participation. Cash awards will be given to first, second, and third place contest winners. The top three winners will be presented their awards at a future televised City Council meeting. Essay and video contests will be judged and awarded separately.

- First place: \$50
- Second place: \$30
- Third place: \$20

Contest Regulations

All entries must comply with the following contest rules before submission:

1. Essays or videos must be in the form of historical fiction or oral history.
2. Each entry must reflect the student's own research, writing, and original thinking.
3. All sources must be properly cited.
4. One (1) entry may be submitted by each contestant.
5. Each contestant must complete and attach an entry form.
6. Each entry will be no more than 750 words in length (essay) or three minutes long (video).
7. Essays may be typed or neatly written.
8. The title of the essay, but NOT the author's name, MUST appear on the top of all pages of the essay.
9. Essays will not be returned and become property of the Mesa Historic Preservation Board. The Board may reprint the essays in publications, online, or use them at workshops. Appropriate citations will be given to the authors.
10. Winning entries will be posted to the Historic Preservation Office website.



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How to Enter

1. Send essay and entry form or video to: arianna.urban@mesaaz.gov
2. Those who would like to submit via US Mail, send entry form and essay to:
City of Mesa Historic Preservation Office
Attn: Arianna Urban
City of Mesa
PO Box 1466
Mesa, AZ 85211-1466
3. Entries **MUST** be postmarked on or before the contest due date of March 05, 2021.

Judging

A committee of Mesa Historic Preservation Board members will narrow submissions to the top ten essays and videos using a rubric to evaluate the quality of the entry. The full Board will then determine the top three based on the overall impression of the degree to which the story conveys Mesa's history.

What is historical fiction?

Historical fiction is a story with a setting located in a real place and time in the past. Characters in the story may be imagined or may be real figures from the past, and the details and action in the story can be a mix of actual events and ones from the author's imagination. However, everything about the story should match the era in which it is set.



VISIT [https://www.mesaaz.gov/
residents/historic-preservation-office](https://www.mesaaz.gov/residents/historic-preservation-office)

OR CONTACT

historicpreservation@mesaaz.gov **FOR
MORE INFORMATION AND
ENTRY FORMS**

**Entries must be in the student's own
voice, but let us know if you need help!**