



January 24, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

Greetings from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). AIAA is a national industry association for the advancement of aerospace sciences, professional development, and fostering STEM education.

Each year, AIAA sponsors an essay contest for middle and junior high school students in seventh and eighth grade to encourage people to think about how aerospace relates to our lives and encourage them to consider a future in science and technology. This year's theme is "How advanced can you envision space technology and exploration through the next 50 years? What do we need to do NOW to achieve that?"

Essays will be judged by the local San Francisco section of the AIAA and winners will be forwarded for a national review. Prizes for first, second and third places at the National level are \$125, \$75, and \$50, respectively. The winners will also be recognized in AIAA's monthly Aerospace America magazine which has an international distribution.

We praise your efforts to educate our young people in STEM, and would appreciate if you can forward this information to any student who might be interested in submitting an essay. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: [education@aiaa-sf.org](mailto:education@aiaa-sf.org).

Thank you for your assistance,

Derek Lang  
Education Team  
AIAA, San Francisco Section

Enclosure



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS (AIAA)  
& THE AIAA SPACE SYSTEMS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (SSTC)

INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

## 2020 SSTC STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST



### THEME:

“How advanced can you envision space technology and exploration through the next 50 years? What do we need to do NOW to achieve that?”

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Typewritten essay, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, in 1,000 words or less
- Include student name, teacher name, grade, and school name printed at the top of the essay
- Submit essay to your local section ([education@aiaa-sf.org](mailto:education@aiaa-sf.org)), with student and teacher’s name, phone, e-mail, and mailing address for notification and awards in the body of the email

### JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. Originality of ideas presented
2. Soundness of logic used to develop ideas
3. Realism of ideas presented
4. Quality of composition and clarity of expression

### NATIONAL PRIZES:

1st place will be award \$125, 2nd place will be awarded \$75, and 3rd place will be awarded \$50. Winners are publically announced in the September issue of Aerospace America magazine.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Any seventh or eighth grader (or equivalent).

### DEADLINE:

Final submission deadline to local AIAA section officers is **April 30, 2020 [updated 3/22/20]**. Local winners and their teachers will be notified in April. National winners and their teachers will be notified in May.

### QUESTIONS:

Email Derek Lang ([education@aiaa-sf.org](mailto:education@aiaa-sf.org))

For more information about AIAA, see our website at:

<https://www.aiaa.org> (national)

<https://aiaa-sf.org> (local chapter)

