

A Letter to My Community in 2036

Imagine your community ten years from now. What do you hope has changed, and how will you contribute?

WHO CAN ENTER

The Goodlark Educational Foundation invites students in the eleventh grade during the 2026-2027 school year who reside in Dickson, Hickman or Humphreys Counties, Tennessee. High school and homeschooled juniors are eligible.

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

Write 800-1,600 words. The essay must be typed, double-spaced and entirely the work of the entrant. Submit one entry per student.

COVER SHEET AND ANONYMOUS JUDGING

Include a separate, unnumbered cover sheet with the essay topic; student name; address; phone number; email address; and high school name. Homeschooled students should list "Homeschool" as their high school.

Do not include the student's name or any other identifying characteristics on the essay pages, so judging can be anonymous. Number essay pages "Page 1 of 3", etc. Do not number the cover sheet.

HOW AND WHEN TO SUBMIT

Email the completed essay and cover sheet in PDF FORMAT ONLY to goodlark@bellsouth.net. Entries must be emailed by midnight on December 1, 2026 to be eligible. Winners will be announced in January 2027.

JUDGING

Essays will be judged on content, creativity and style. The decision of the judges is final.

SCHOLARSHIP PRIZES

\$2,000

FIRST PRIZE

\$1,000

SECOND PRIZE

\$500

THIRD PRIZE

Each scholarship is for the school the winner attends after high school.