

**The Antonio Meucci High School Essay Contest**

***Sponsored by the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum***

***www.garibaldimeuccimuseum.com***

Throughout his lifetime Antonio Meucci was responsible for many inventions, improvements, and ideas. These innovations included smokeless candles, a tea and coffee filtering system, oil/kerosene lamps and, most notably, the telephone.

In honor of the legacy of Italian inventor Antonio Meucci and Italian Heritage Month, the

Garibaldi-Meucci Museum is pleased to announce the 2024 Antonio Meucci High School

Essay Contest.

The Antonio Meucci High School Essay Contest is open to all students in grades 9-12 who attend either a public or private school in New York, New Jersey, or Massachusetts. The contest invites students to have fun as they discover, research, and explore one of the four essay topics listed below.

**Cash prizes will be awarded to individuals for the best essay.**

One 1st prize winner will receive a cash prize of $250

One 2nd prize winner will receive a cash prize of $150

One 3rd prize winner will receive a cash prize of $100

The judges will be looking for:

* Descriptive language
* Spelling and grammar
* Valuable content and/or research

***PLEASE NOTE:* All entries must be received by Thursday, October 31, 2024.**

**PLEASE SELECT ONE TOPIC:**

1 – This year, 2024, marks the 500th Anniversary of Giovanni da Verrazzano sailing into New York Bay and the 60th Anniversary of the opening of the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge. Analyze the construction and significance of the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge. Why was it named in honor of Verrazzano? What does this signify about the relationship between historical figures and modern infrastructure?

2 – Both the Italian inventor, Antonio Meucci, and the great Italian General, Giuseppe Garibaldi, have changed the world with their contributions to society. Research how Antonio Meucci and Giuseppe Garibaldi are remembered today. What steps have been taken to honor their contributions? Why is it important to celebrate both technological and political achievements?

3 – If you could create a holiday what would it be? Why would you create this holiday? How would you celebrate it?

4 – You suddenly have the power to switch lives with any historical figure for 24 hours. Who would you be? What would you do in that 24-hour period?

**Rules:**

1. All NY, NJ and MA students, currently enrolled in a public or private school, in ***grades 9 – 12*** are eligible to participate.
2. Only one essay per student may be submitted.
3. Essay must be completed by one student only. Group participation for one essay is not permitted.
4. The length of each essay **must** be ***250******-******350******words.***
5. Essay must be original content created by the contest participant.
6. The topic of the essay must be selected from one of the four topics listed above. Each essay must discuss only one essay topic.
7. No photos or diagrams.
8. The entry must include the student’s name, home address, email address, telephone number, grade level and school name.
9. Winners will be notified by telephone and email address provided upon entry on Friday, November 29, 2024.
10. ***All entries must be submitted via email by Thursday, October 31, 2024.***
11. ***All entries must be emailed to*** **acicero@garibaldimeuccimuseum.org**

Any questions please contact:

AnnMarie Cicero, School Program Coordinator

(718) 442-1608 acicero@garibaldimeuccimuseum.org

**\*\* Please email all essay submissions to** **acicero@garibaldimeuccimuseum.org**

**by Thursday, October 31, 2024 \*\***