



NORTH CAROLINA YAM FESTIVAL at TABOR CITY
“A BLAST FROM THE PAST” - Celebrating 50 Cumulative Festival Years

NC Yam Festival Essay Contest

This is the first ever North Carolina Yam Festival Essay Contest! We are encouraging young people to tap into their creative thinking about our town’s great history of the NC Yam Festival. This year is even more special because it is the festival’s **50th** year in the making, thus our theme this year is “A Blast From the Past”. Participants may include their own personal experience while at the Yam Festival or someone else’s experience, but they have to include the history.

This contest is open to students in grades 5-8. Essays are being judged on: historical accuracy, topic, text organization, creativity/originality, interest, spelling and grammar, punctuation, and neatness. Please see the attached sheet for complete guidelines and judging sheet.

Three (3) winners (first, second, and third) will be chosen and announced on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. The **deadline** to turn in the essay is **Tuesday, October 12, 2021**.

Students will have to research the history of the NC Yam Festival, and this information may be located on the website: ncyamfestival.com. A hardcopy is also attached. For additional information, please feel free to call the Tabor City Public Library, which serves as the NC Yam Festival Headquarters, at 910-653-3774.

Essays may be mailed to:

NC Yam Festival
C/O Yam Essay
103-D East Fifth Street
Tabor City, NC 28463

North Carolina Yam Festival at Tabor City

2021-NC Yam Festival Essay Contest

October 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the North Carolina Yam Festival in Tabor City. It is considered one of the largest festivals in the state and has drawn thousands into town throughout the years. Students should incorporate the history of the NC Yam Festival in their personal essay. The history may be found on the following web-site: ncyamfestival.com. For additional information, please feel free to call the Tabor City Public Library, which serves as the NC Yam Festival Headquarters, at 910-653-3774.

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING

STUDENT'S NAME: _____ GRADE: _____

SCHOOL: _____

NUMBER OF WORDS IN ESSAY: _____

DIRECTIONS FOLLOWED: (All must be answered affirmatively)

1. FORM: Handwritten in black in, typed on computer with font no smaller than 12pt and no larger than 14pt. Yes? _____ No? _____

2. NUMBER OF WORDS:
Grade 5: 300-600 Yes? _____ No? _____
Grade 6-8 600-1,000
*All words count including title

3. TITLE PAGE: Yes? _____ No? _____
The following must be on the title page:
*Title of Essay
*Student's full name and full mailing/street address
*Student's phone number and area code
*Student's email address (if available)
*Name of student's school and grade
*Number of words in essay

Judging based upon:

1. Completeness of title page (1 to 5 points) _____
2. Historical accuracy (1 to 30 points) _____
3. Sticking to the topic (1 to 15 points) _____
4. Organization (1 to 10 points) _____
5. Originality/creativity (1 to 10 points) _____
6. Interest (1 to 10 points) _____
7. Spelling/punctuation (1 to 10 points) _____
8. Grammar (1 to 10 points) _____

Judge's Signature: _____