



Stories of Discovery: California History Writing Contest

Have the people and events that shaped California’s history come alive for you when visiting a historic place, museum, local history archive or the State Archives? The California Secretary of State invites you to share what you discovered in one of these places, beyond classrooms and books, and what made it especially meaningful to you. Selected entries may be published in the State Archives "California Originals" newsletter on the Secretary of State's website and publicized through media.

How to Enter

1. Fill out the entry form below. If you are under 18, your parent or guardian must sign it.
2. Choose the most interesting thing you have learned about California history at a historic site, museum, local archive or the California State Archives. Write an essay or poem (up to 500 words) describing why this discovery was important to you. Did it change the way you view yourself, your family or the history of California? Did it inspire you to dig deeper on a subject or learn more about California history in general?
3. Mail your entry form and essay or poem to California Secretary of State History Writing Contest, 1500 11th Street, 6th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. You may also email the items to Secretary.Bowen@sos.ca.gov and write "CA History Writing Contest" in the subject line. (Even if you email, the entry form must be signed.) Entries must be postmarked or emailed by October 31, 2014. Winners will be notified the week of November 10.

Entry Form

Stories of Discovery: California History Writing Contest

Name _____

Home address _____

City _____ Zip code _____

Home phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____

If you are under 18, also provide the following. Your parent or guardian must sign.

School name _____ Grade _____

Parent or guardian name _____

Parent email _____

Parent or guardian signature _____

With my signature above, I acknowledge that entries become the property of the California Secretary of State's office and that selected entries may be used for other civic education purposes, with credit to the author. Selected entries may be published in the State Archives "California Originals" newsletter on the Secretary of State's website and may be publicized through media.