

Section 965: BARBARA JORDAN HISTORICAL ESSAY
COMPETITION

(a) THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Purpose.* The purpose of the Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition is to provide students an opportunity to explore the contributions of African Americans to Texas history. Essays should focus on individuals or groups who are not well-known figures but who have made significant contributions to African American history or culture in Texas. Students should look first to their local communities for possible essay topics.
- (2) *Format.* Research paper format required. Guidelines and minimum standards will be posted on the UIL website. Essays should display original research; use of primary sources and interviews strongly encouraged.

(b) ENTRIES

- (1) *Representation.* Any student in grades 9-12 who attends a UIL member high school is eligible to enter.
- (2) *Deadline.* Entries will be submitted electronically on or before the deadline published on the UIL website.
- (3) *Evaluation.* All entries that meet basic requirements will be included in essay judging. Judges will evaluate each entry and provide comments that will be returned to contestants.

- (c) QUALIFICATION. Judges will nominate essays to be considered as state finalists. A selection committee will determine state finalists from among the nominees. All state finalists will be presented state awards and become eligible to apply for Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships.