**Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc.**

**National Irish History Contest**

**2022-2023 School Year**

**ORGANIZED IN 1894**

Dear wonderful educators and lovers of Irish History,

**As a current Colorado educator and member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, I am honored** **to invite your students to participate in our National Irish History Contest**. The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. sponsors a National Irish History Contest for students Grades 6 through 12. The contest is divided into two levels: Level 1 is for students in Grades 6, 7, or 8, and Level 2 is for students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12. Students enrolled in parochial, private, public schools, or who are home schooled are eligible to participate. **You do not have to be Irish or Catholic to enter the contest.**

The topic for 2022-2023 Irish History Contest for Level 1 and Level 2:

**The Life and History of Bram Stoker and the Castle Dracula, Dublin, Ireland.**

Castle Dracula in Dublin is one of Ireland’s newer tourist attractions. This contest is on the history and legacy of Bram Stoker and his novel **Dracula -**NOT the “Castle Experience.”

Discuss Bram Stoker; the man behind one of the world’s most well-known horror classics, **Dracula**.

Who was Bram Stoker?

Where did he get the ideas for his novel, **Dracula**?

Did growing up in Ireland influence his writing?

Are vampires Irish?

Did Irish folklore affect his creative ideas?

What was the legacy of Bram Stoker’s **Dracula**?

Is the novel **Dracula** still influencing the imagination over one hundred years after Bram Stoker’s death?

The Irish History Contest Student Rules are attached, as well as the Judging Criteria. Students should submit their entries to the Denver LAOH Irish Historian electronically.

My contact information is as follows:

             Amy Moran

**Email**: denverlaohhistorian@gmail.com

**The DEADLINE for student submissions is 11:59pm, November 15,2022**. No submissions will be accepted after the deadline date.

Entries are initially judged at the Division Level. Following judging at the local level, a select number will be forwarded to the LAOH National level to be judged.

Prizes are determined at each Level.

Entries being judged at the Denver LAOH Local Level will be eligible for the following monetary prizes:

         Level 1: **Grades 6-8** – 1st Place $50, 2nd Place – a $20 Amazon gift card, and 3rd Place – a $10 Amazon gift card

 Level 2: **Grades 9-12** – 1st Place $100, 2nd Place – a $40 Amazon gift card, and 3rd Place – a $25 Amazon gift card

Entries being judged at the LAOH National Level will be eligible for the following monetary prizes:

         Level 1: **Grades 6-8** – 1st Place $500 and 2nd Place $250

 Level 2: **Grades 9-12** – 1st Place $1,000 and 2nd Place $500

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. (LAOH) is a National Organization of Irish Catholic Women recognized as a 501(c)(3) by the IRS. We have divisions in thirty (30) states, including your local area. The goal of our National Irish History Contest is to have students learn Irish History and its contributions to the global community. Contest entries need to be grammatically correct and will be judged on historic accuracy and the student’s knowledge, discussion, and support of the subject.

Each student, through her/his participation, gives permission to the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. to share her/his submitted entry with the LAOH membership at meetings, events, and/or shared on the LAOH website***.***We will not publicly post any personal information (address or phone number) of the student. The winning entry will include the student’s first name, state, and our local LAOH Division.

Final winners at the Local level will be announced by January 31, 2023.  Final winners at the National level will be announced by March 31, 2023.

We look forward to reading your students’ submissions.

Yours in Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

**Amy Moran**

LAOH Irish Historian

Denver Division 1