



2016-17 DVRF College Essay Competition

The Dennis & Victoria Ross Foundation is pleased to announce an essay competition open to undergraduate students enrolled at a four-year college or university for the 2016-17 academic year.

The essay topic is:

“The First Amendment and Free Expression in 21st Century America”

1st Prize \$5,000

2nd Prize \$3,000

3rd Prize \$2,000

4th Prize \$1,000

As stated on our website, the Foundation is committed to the importance of free expression and inquiry in a civilized, diverse society. We are, however, equally committed to the value of robust dialogue and debate, and are naturally skeptical of absolutist views on any issue of importance, including the role of the First Amendment. In this regard, the essay competition is not designed to elicit a ‘right’ answer or to draw and reward views similar to those of the Foundation. Essays will be evaluated on their thoughtfulness and quality of expression, and the extent to which they engage honestly with alternative views.

Essays should be limited to no more than 1500 words. Please send your submissions to dross@dvrff.org by **November 1st, 2016**.