



# Letter to My Parents™ Contest in Hawai'i 2024

## Invitation: \$1000 Cash Prize Essay Writing Contest

The Letter to My Parents Contest™ Organizing Committee invites teens and young adults to write a compelling letter to their parents have a chance to win up to \$1000 and other various prizes!

## Who can participate?

Anyone between 14-22 of age (high school, college, and university students) currently living in the State of Hawai'i has the chance to participate in the 2024 Letter to My Parents™ Contest!

## What to do?

A contestant is invited to write an essay in a letter format to his/her parents with a constructive proposal and the intention of maintaining or improving his/her family relationship!

## What to write?

A contestant is strongly encouraged to use one or more of the following suggested guiding questions:

- What do my parent(s) / family mean to me?
- What would i like to do for my parent(s) / family?
- How have my parents experiences and influence affected or shaped the person I am today?
- How can I improve relationships in my family?
- What have I felt about my family during the pandemic?
- What steps will I commit myself to, in order to make our family relationships better?

## Time Schedule

8/5/2024: Official contest guideline will be available.

10/04/2024: Last day of submission.

10/25/2024: Selection of Ten Awardees extending invitation to attend the Final Presentation event.

11/9/2024: Final Presentation and Awarding Ceremony at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The event starting at 2pm.

## Suggestion to Educators

This is a great way to learn more about your students! The letter allows students to unveil a portion of their life which may be informative for the educators, giving the opportunity to understand more about the students!

Please encourage your students to be part of this contest either as a homework, class project or an extra credit!

For more details, check out the attached 2024 contest guidelines!

For more information, contact [info@lettertomyparents.com](mailto:info@lettertomyparents.com)



# Letter to My Parents™ Contest in Hawai'i 2024

## — CONTEST GUIDELINES —

### 1. INVITATION

It is challenging to live fulfilled lives without our parents. Family has always been the basis of our society. Family unity is what helps people grow both as individuals and as members of society. However, for the past several years, for many individuals, the role and meaning of family has changed. Therefore, it is truly important, more than ever, to create a forum where the local youth and young adults can express and share their feelings as well as their commitment to assist their families in overcoming obstacles and moving forward. Thus, the [Filipino Association of University Women \(FAUW\)](#), and [Reiyukai America](#) are pleased to invite teens and young adults residing in the State of Hawai'i to participate in the **2024 Letter to My Parents Contest™ in Hawai'i!**

### 2. PROCEDURE AND PRIZES

A contestant must write a letter dedicated to his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and submit it to the Organizing Committee via email along with other required documents. There is no entry fee. The letters will go through a couple of selection processes to select ten (10) awardees.

The Final Stage and Awarding Ceremony consists of an oral presentation where the ten awardees will recite their letters in front of a general audience as well as a panel of judges who will be selecting three (3) most share worthy letters to grant **\$1,000** in the following categories: **Bravery, Reflection and Proposal**. The remaining seven will be receiving \$250.

### 3. PARTICIPATION

Participants between the **ages of 14 to 22 (high school, college, and university students)** currently residing in the State of Hawai'i, are encouraged to participate in the contest. Each contestant must provide proof that he/she/they resides or attends a school in the State of Hawai'i. Participants 17 years old and under must submit a Consent Form where a parent/guardian gives the contestant permission to participate. Contestants from previous years may participate by submitting a new letter with a different content from the previous years.

### 4. WRITING A LETTER

A participant will be drafting a letter that must be written with the intention of maintaining healthy family relationships and/or improving family dynamics, with the author committing to contribute to building strong family bonds.

#### 4.1 Guiding Questions

The contestant is required to submit her/his/their work illustrated with concrete examples of personal family life reflecting on family relations and interactions.

The participant is strongly encouraged to use one or more of the following suggested guiding questions when drafting the letter:

- What do my parent(s) / family mean to me?
- What would I like to do for my parent(s) / family?
- How have my parents experiences and influence affected or shaped the person I am today?
- How can I improve relationships in my family?
- What have I felt about my family during the pandemic?
- What steps will I commit myself to, in order to make our family relationships better?

#### 4.2 Structure

The submitted letter must contain the following three components.

- 1) Name(s) to whom the letter is addressed.
- 2) A narration of one or more significant family experiences.
- 3) A proposal either implicit or explicit that describes how the contestant intends to improve or maintain a positive family relationship.

#### 4.3 Language

The participant may choose one or a combination of languages that are used in the State of Hawai'i. If any other language besides English is used, the participant must provide the English translation.

#### 4.4 Format

It is highly recommended that the letters are not to exceed more than 1000 words.

#### 4.5 Content

Each participant must submit a letter that is clear, honest, sincere, and completely written in one's own words and established as personal experiences.

The Organizing Committee takes plagiarism extremely seriously. Thus entries based on fictitious events or happenings will not be accepted. If an awarding letter is recognized as fiction or a situation experienced by a third-party, without the addition of citation notes, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to withdraw the award as well as publicly announce the cause and violation of this guideline.

#### 4.6 Evaluation

The evaluation process will be focused on how the contestant proposes to maintain a healthy relationship with their family, or how they will improve parent-child relationship, rather than the writing style, the amount of family experiences described in the letter, or how the letter is recited during the final presentation.

### 5. ENTRY INFORMATION

For the 2024 contest, the submission will be accepted only via email to [info@lettertomyparents.com](mailto:info@lettertomyparents.com).

Upon submission each contestant must include the following documents;

- Original Letter (.docx, pdf, Google Docs\*.)
  - A photo of an official identification proving either proof of the residency and/or school enrollment in Hawai'i (e.g. A photo of driver license, state ID, or school ID)
- NOTE: SELFIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

- Registration Form

- If you are 17 years old and under, do not forget to include the Consent Form signed by your parent/guardian.

**NOTE: When sending a link using Google Docs, participants need to ensure giving permission to [info@lettertomyparents.com](mailto:info@lettertomyparents.com) have access to the documents.**

### 6. STRUCTURE OF THE CONTEST

#### 6.1 First Stage

Participants will be allowed to submit their work after **August 5, 2024**.

Participants will have until **Friday, October 4, 2024**, to submit entry along with other required documents.

#### 6.2 Semifinal Stage

The submitted letters by the expected deadline will undergo a screening process by which the ten letters that best reflect on the guiding questions will be selected as the awardees by **Friday, October 25, 2024**.

Those ten contestants who are selected will be contacted by the Organizing Committee via email, phone or both to be invited to attend the Final Presentation and Awarding Ceremony.

#### 6.3 Final Stage

The Final Presentation and Awarding Ceremony is scheduled to be held on **Saturday, November 9, 2024, 2pm** at **Scottish Rite Cathedral, 1611 Kewalo Street, Honolulu 96822**.

The ten awardees will be reciting their submitted letters, without altering or modifying content. Awardees living in Oahu are strongly encouraged to attend the event in-person. Awardees living in other islands, although they are strongly encouraged to attend in-person to fully appreciate the experience, may have the option to attend the event online or in-person, and they need to confirm with the Organizing Committee at least a week of the event day. The Organizing Committee will not be responsible for any transportation fees.

After the ten award winning letters are presented by their authors, the judges will then determine for the three most share-worthy letters. The judges will consist of people who are recognized for their moral and intellectual reliability and chosen by the organizing committee from the community stakeholders; their decisions will not be appealable.

### 7. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By participating in the contest, each contestant will understand and agree to the following Terms and Conditions.

- Each contestant must follow the above-described guidelines.
- There is zero tolerance for plagiarism. The use of any outside resource is allowed but must be properly quoted within the text by the writer of the letter.
- All submitted letters for this contest will not be returned to the author and will become property of the Letter to My Parents™ Contest Organizing Committee.
- The author understands the possibility of the letter being published/presented at a later date to media outlets which include: newspapers, web pages, social media, electronic mails, magazines; radio programs, television as well as any future community events organized by the Organizing Committee's members.
- The Organizing Committee will not be responsible for any family issue that may arise as the result of the content expressed in the letters by their authors.

### 8. CONTACT

For any questions regarding the contest, contact through the following:

Mobile: 808-294-1221 (Margot)

Email: [info@lettertomyparents.com](mailto:info@lettertomyparents.com)

### 9. MISCELLANEOUS

Any unseen issues will be resolved by the Organizing Committee.

### 10. ORGANIZING SPONSORS

Filipino Association of University Women (FAUW)

Reiyukai America

### 11. COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Kalamansi Books and Things

Hawai'i State Library







# Parental / Guardian Consent Form for Participation

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby allow the participation of my \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name of the Parent/Guardian Relationship  
\_\_\_\_\_ to the 2024 Letter to My Parents™ Contest in Hawai'i.  
Full Name of the Participant

I have read, reviewed, and understood all of the details and agree in fulfilling all the rules and requirements that the Organizing Committee of the 2024 Letter to My Parents™ Contest in Hawai'i mentions.

I understand that the letter of my \_\_\_\_\_ will not be given back and will  
Relationship become the property of the Organizing Committee of the Letter to My Parents™ Contest. I understand the possibility of the letter being published/presented at a later date to media outlets which include: newspapers, web pages, social media, electronic mails, magazines; radio programs, television as well as any future community events organized by the Organizing Committee's members.

I accept / understand that the Organizing Committee will not be responsible for the contents of the letter and implications that may occur due to the content submitted at any time.

Signature of the Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Contestant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_