

Florida Federation of Music Clubs
NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK
2026 Essay Contest Rules

1. Theme of 2026 Essay: "*Music is ... our constant companion.*"
2. Essay MUST be typed and no longer than 500 words. The current year's theme and entrant's name must be typed at the top of the first page. Essays are judged on the content, grammar, and originality.
3. Entry fee of \$5.00 is nonrefundable. Make check payable to FFMC, Inc. Your cancelled check will serve as confirmation of receipt of your FFMC Essay application.
4. The essay contest is open to students in Grades 7-12. To enter the FFMC competition, Junior membership in FFMC is required. Ask your teacher for the name of your Junior Club. If you are not a member of a Junior Club, include an additional \$20.00 to satisfy the membership requirement.
5. The Essay becomes the property of the sponsoring group for publication of the entire essay or parts of it and will not be returned. (Please keep a copy for your records.)
6. The decision of the judges will be final and accepted by all.
7. Mail your essay along with \$5 entry fee and signed state application by December 15, 2025 postmark deadline to:

Amy Duncan, FFMC Essay Chair
16559 Arrowhead Trail
Clermont, FL 34711

Membership is NOT required for the annual **National Federation of Music Clubs** "National Music Week" Essay Contest. Refer to NFMC contest rules. Search "AR 13-1" at <https://www.nfmc-music.org>. There is no fee to enter. Be sure to upload all NMW entry materials with high-resolution JPEG photo by January 10, 2026 via the NFMC portal: <https://forms.nfmc-music.org>