



The Oakwood Schools  
**FOUNDATION**

*Enhancing Excellence in Education*

The Oakwood Schools Foundation is pleased to announce,  
the 15th Annual Harlamert Foundation Entrepreneurship Competition

## ABOUT THE COMPETITION

This annual competition, administered by The Oakwood Schools Foundation thanks to the generosity of Irvin Harlamert, JD (OHS class of 1948), emphasizes the importance of the entrepreneurial spirit on the success of our society and encourages students to explore and understand the experience of entrepreneurs. The competition was first held in 2010 and is open to all students at Oakwood High School.

🎉 Prize money 🎉 will be given to ALL entrants who:

- Meet all deadlines and follow all guidelines.
- Submit high-quality, proofread work.
  - ◆ We're looking for top-quality papers that answer the questions below.
  - ◆ Entries will be graded—the better you do, the larger the award!

### Important dates:

February 2, 2024

**Written entries due to The Oakwood Schools Foundation**

March 19, 2024

**Awards breakfast for winners, parents, and entrepreneurs**

## 2024 COMPETITION ASSIGNMENT AND GUIDELINES

Spend at least half a day shadowing an entrepreneur and submit a written report about your experience. Be creative; tap into original ideas and highlight your personal experiences and reflections.

### Please make sure you follow these important competition guidelines:

- Essays must be your own work.
- Essays must have an introduction, supporting details, and a conclusion.
- Essays must be at least 750 words and not more than 1,000 words.
- Essays must be high quality and fully proofread.
- You may not use the same business, organization, or entrepreneur more than once.
- The entrepreneur must be someone outside your household.
- Please be sure to get a picture of you and the entrepreneur to submit along with your essay.
- Entrepreneurs and businesses from the 2023 competition can't be used—these include:
  - ◆ The Dollries Group
  - ◆ Raymond James - McGillivray and Ippisch Wealth Advisors
  - ◆ Jack and Joe Coffee Co
  - ◆ Sentinel Analytica
  - ◆ Fox Gallery
  - ◆ Drummond Research LLC

- ◆ Present Tense Fitness
- ◆ Complete Performance LLC
- ◆ Christy Lynn Designs
- ◆ Ruetschle Architects Inc
- ◆ Old Scratch Pizza
- ◆ Anesthesiology Services Network
- ◆ Traveling Pendants
- ◆ Lula Bell Whimsical Cards And Gifts
- ◆ Space Coast Urgent Care for Adults and Pediatrics
- ◆ Red Lion Design Studio
- ◆ Nails on Brown
- ◆ Ashley's Pastry Shop
- ◆ KTC Quail Run
- ◆ Bracelet Bro's
- ◆ Yellow Brick Theater
- ◆ Beauty Encounters
- ◆ Ghostlight Coffee

## WHAT IS AN ENTREPRENEUR?

The stereotypical profile of an entrepreneur—a male businessman who started his own company and has become extraordinarily wealthy—no longer applies. Entrepreneurs are male and female, young and old, involved in both vocations and avocations. Success is no longer defined largely by an accumulation of wealth but can be measured in many other ways.

Loosely translated, the French word “entrepreneur” could mean “entering into an undertaking to accomplish something.” A far broader definition generally includes anyone who undertakes to create something. So, an entrepreneur could be the lady from Dayton who teaches piano lessons in her home, a person seeking public office through election by the people, or even a person from the clergy. It could include the art major who became a portrait painter or opened an art shop, or an actor or a musician. It could include lawyers, doctors, dentists, and other professionals. It could, of course, include persons who enter into an enterprise whether or not they meet with financial success.

## DEADLINES AND HOW TO SUBMIT

The deadline is Friday, February 2, 2024.

- We’re collecting ALL entries on a google form here:
  - <https://forms.gle/UAz8Wfsbvp5tndgq9>
- A pdf of these guidelines and another link to the google form to submit can be found here:
  - [Harlamert Entrepreneurship Competition | Oakwood Schools Foundation](#)
- Please email [contact@oakwoodschooldfoundation.org](mailto:contact@oakwoodschooldfoundation.org) if you need help submitting your work or need to make other arrangements to submit your entry.

## CONTENT AND SCORING

Your entry will be read by members of our review committee and scored using the criteria below. The more of these elements that you touch on in your essay, the higher your score.

<b>10%</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
	<p><i>Describe the entrepreneur's business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How long has it been operating? What are its goals?</li> <li>● Provide the biographical, personal, and professional background of the owner.</li> <li>● Focus on <u>why</u> they started the enterprise.</li> </ul>
<b>50%</b>	<b>Questions for the Entrepreneur</b>
	<p><i>Prior to the start-up phase of the enterprise:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The main focus is to discover the sources of the idea of the enterprise.</li> <li>● Influences prior to the start-up phase which related to the ability to create the enterprise.</li> <li>● Experiences of the entrepreneur prior to the start-up phase.</li> </ul> <p><i>The start-up phase of the enterprise:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How did they get their idea?</li> <li>● Describe the entrepreneur's motivation.</li> <li>● Describe the planning done by the entrepreneur.</li> <li>● Describe the outside advice received by the entrepreneur.</li> <li>● Describe the financing developed by the entrepreneur.</li> <li>● Describe the analysis of the risks of the enterprise in its beginning stages.</li> </ul> <p><i>Additional questions that may help you answer the above items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Does the entrepreneur like the subject matter? Why?</li> <li>● Does the entrepreneur have a role model?</li> <li>● Did the entrepreneur ever work for another person? If so, did they like it?</li> <li>● Timing of the startup. Too early, too late or great timing?</li> <li>● How much planning was done? How much investigation was done?</li> <li>● What were the pitfalls?</li> <li>● What were the surprises?</li> <li>● What were the priorities of the entrepreneur?</li> <li>● What start-up mistakes were made? How did they correct them?</li> <li>● What did they learn from their mistakes? Were the risks too much or too little?</li> <li>● Were the rewards greater or less than was expected?</li> <li>● What personal qualities were necessary?</li> </ul> <p><i>After achieving permanent and lasting success:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe in detail what stage the enterprise became established and successful.</li> <li>● Have they worked hard, or was it easy?</li> <li>● Was it harder or easier than they thought?</li> <li>● Do they still want to grow their enterprise?</li> <li>● Have they reached their peak?</li> <li>● Were there any additional start-up enterprises that flowed from the original enterprise?</li> </ul>
<b>40%</b>	<b>Your Conclusions</b>
	<p><i>This is your opportunity to put forth your original thoughts regarding the experience of shadowing the entrepreneur, with emphasis on the following elements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What did you <u>learn</u>?</li> <li>● What <u>surprised</u> you?</li> <li>● What <u>impressed</u> you?</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What <u>scared</u> you?</li><li>• Have you <u>thought about being an entrepreneur</u> before this experience?</li><li>• If you should ever become an entrepreneur, what would your dream endeavor be?</li></ul> |
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**GOOD LUCK!**

*We look forward to receiving your entry.*

**Deadline: February 2, 2024**

**Questions? Email us at [contact@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org](mailto:contact@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org)**