



American Veterinary Medical History Society

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AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL HISTORY SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2024 STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

The AVMHS is pleased to announce the following winners of the 2024 J.F. Smithcors Student Veterinary History Essay Contest (www.avmhs.org/essay-contest):

- 1st Place - \$1,200** **Brianna Trent-Kielbasa** (Kansas State University, '25)
Welcome to The Jungle: The Impact on Veterinarians in Meat Inspection
- 2nd Place - \$1,000** **Victoria Warnecke** (Oklahoma State University, '26)
(Ear) Tag, You're It: The History of National Efforts for Animal Identification
- 3rd Place - \$800** **Reagan Stephens** (Texas A&M University '27)
Rinderpest: A Bull in a China Shop
- 4th Place (tie) - \$500** **Kristyn Burton** (Oklahoma State University '25)
The Genesis of the Beast
- 4th Place (tie) - \$500** **Scott Miller** (University of Missouri '26)
Ancient Antidotes to Modern Medicine: The Evolution of Veterinary Toxicology

Named in honor of the Society's founder, Dr. J.F. Smithcors, the annual student history essay contest was established in 1992 and awards cash prizes each year for meritorious essays on relevant topics in veterinary history. Students enrolled in DVM/VMD programs at colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, or the Caribbean are eligible to submit essays of 3,500 words or less.

Essays undergo a blinded review process by a panel of 3 or 4 knowledgeable judges. Major criteria for evaluation include historical interest and relevancy, scientific merit and accuracy, writing quality at both the organizational and sentence levels, and research documentation and references.

Prize-winning essays are published in issues of *Veterinary Heritage*, the Society's semi-annual bulletin.

According to this year's Chair of the Essay Contest Committee, Dr. Susan Aiello, "*The AVMHS is delighted to see the growing interest among students to research and write about the rich history of the veterinary profession. There were 22 entries this year, submitted by students from twelve veterinary schools.*"

About the AVMHS: Established in 1978, the AVMHS (<https://avmhs.org/>) is a non-profit organization dedicated to education, research, and service in the field of veterinary medical history.

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