



American Veterinary Medical History Society

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AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL HISTORY SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2023 STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

The AVMHS is pleased to announce winners of the 2023 J.F. Smithcors Student Veterinary History Essay Contest (<https://www.avmhs.org/essay-contest>). They include:

1st Place - \$1,200 **Emma Gildner** '25 Oklahoma State University
The Taming of the Screw(worm): A History of the Sterile Insect Technique

2nd Place - \$1,000 **Reese Bailey** '25 Kansas State University
Nineteenth Century Urban Crisis: The Horse as a Public Health Hazard

3rd Place (tie) - \$800 **Carlie Dill** '25 Kansas State University
Merrill's Marauders: The Brave Men and Mules Who Found Victory

3rd Place (tie) - \$800 **Mahala Furman** '24 Oklahoma State University
Dr. Sophia Yin: Turning the Tides of Training

4th Place - \$500 **Courtney Labé** '25 University of Minnesota
Becoming Mr. Turkey: The Career of Dr. Benjamin S. Pomeroy

Named in honor of the Society's founder Dr. J. Fred Smithcors, the annual student history essay contest was established in 1992 and has awarded cash prizes each year for meritorious essays on a broad range of topics related to veterinary history. Students who are enrolled in DVM programs at colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States and Canada are eligible to submit essays of 3500 words or less. Essays are evaluated blindly by a panel of 3-4 knowledgeable and experienced judges. Prize winning essays are published in issues of *Veterinary Heritage*, the Society's semi-annual bulletin.

According to Dr. Jessica Garrett, past chair of the Essay Contest Committee, "*through this contest, students have an exciting opportunity to research topics of their own choosing, gaining a knowledge that may even surpass some of their professors. Learning the history of our field is an amazing way to gain a deeper understanding of our modern medicine, ethical decisions, business practices, and even ongoing research.*"

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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