2022-2023 USSYP/OREGON ESSAY QUESTIONS

SELECT ONE (1) QUESTION AND RESPOND IN 600-1000 WORDS

1. As a student leader in Oregon, what do you see as the greatest areas for improvement in the education system, and what ideas would you propose to create better dialogue and understanding among various student groups?

2. Assess the issues underlying the Supreme Court’s recent decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health (2022). How did the Supreme Court decide the case and on what grounds?

3. Imagine that you have recently been elected as one of the youngest members of the Oregon legislature. What would be the first bill you would introduce? Describe the provisions of your bill and why this initiative is your top priority.

4. The Constitution’s establishment of an Electoral College to choose the U.S. president makes it possible to elect a chief executive who did not win the popular vote. Should the Electoral College by eliminated in favor of an alternative means of selecting presidents? If not, why not? If yes, what alternative system would you favor, and are there any drawbacks to that alternative system as well?

5. Is there an important historical figure from Oregon that you feel has been underrepresented in high school history curriculum? Describe this figure’s contribution to our nation’s (or our state’s) history and why it would be important to raise awareness about them now.