



Write an Essay!



GET INVOLVED!

Enter your class with a written essay on an issue facing our democracy.

Open to 4th and 5th grade classes in public, private, or parochial schools in the 5-County Philadelphia area: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia, and Montgomery Counties.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 9, 2018

1 GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000

Check payable to the winning school to be used toward a program that promotes civic learning and engagement in the student body.

3 RUNNER-UP PRIZES: \$500

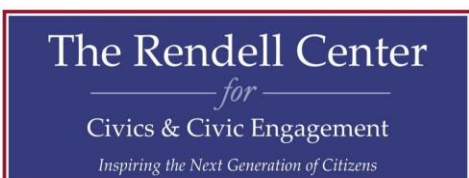
Check payable to the winning school to be used toward a program that promotes civic learning and engagement in the student body.

TOP 10 ENTRIES

The Top 10 Finalists will receive our "Literature-Based Mock Trails" curriculum as well as civics library for their school. Finalists will also be invited to make a final presentation on December 11, 2018.

More Information at RendellCenter.org

PRESENTED BY



Rules and Submission Criteria on the Following Page





OFFICIAL RULES AND ENTRY SUBMISSIONS

The Citizenship Challenge is an opportunity for 4-5th grade classrooms in public, private, or parochial schools in the 5-County Philadelphia area (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia, and Montgomery Counties) to express themselves regarding a current issue facing our democracy. Classroom teams will be asked to write an essay that addresses their team's point of view on the issue. Teams should take one position and defend their argument in a concise written document of a minimum of 300 words. The contest is drawn from PA Civics standards relating to principles and documents of government; rights and responsibilities of citizens; and information on how government works.

This Year's Citizenship Challenge Question:

Why is the First Amendment important to you?

WHO CAN ENTER:

The Citizenship Challenge contest is open to students/classes in grades 4-5, who are enrolled in public, private, or parochial schools in the 5-County Philadelphia area: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia, and Montgomery Counties.

HOW TO ENTER:

The deadline for submissions is November 9, 2018. Have your voice heard! Classrooms should submit their entry in an essay form and may include a supplemental PowerPoint or video. Essays should be a minimum of 300 words. Essays should be double-spaced using Times New Roman 12pt. Essays should include a cover sheet with the following information:

School name | Grade level | Teacher's name | Teacher's email | School phone number | Class size

Essays need to be submitted by midnight on November 9, 2018 to bspecker@rendellcenter.org or mailed to:

Beth Specker, The Rendell Center for Civics and Civic Engagement,
Annenberg Public Policy Center, 202 S. 36th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3806

Once your entry has been submitted, you will receive confirmation that the judging committee has received your submission. If you have any questions about your submission, contact Beth Specker, Executive Director, The Rendell Center for Civics and Civic Engagement at bspecker@rendellcenter.org or call 215-746-6336.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

The PSSA Persuasive Scoring Guideline will be utilized. The essays will be judged on the four areas of Focus, Content Development, Organization, and Style. Each area will be worth 25 points.

GOOD LUCK!

We look forward to your entry!

RendellCenter.org