

Newport News Council



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Citizenship Essay Project

2016-2017 Theme: "We the People...Why Vote?"

Deadline: January 6, 2017

Virginia PTA is proud to sponsor the 2017 Citizenship Essay Project, with the theme "*We the people...why vote?*" This essay project allows students to express their views and opinions on character or citizenship. Virginia PTA is committed to promoting a sense of citizenship and responsibility in the lives of our children—tomorrow's leaders.

Who Can Enter?

All Virginia students in grades K – 12 presently enrolled in schools with active PTA/PTSA units in Good Standing. A PTA in Good Standing is one who has paid state and national dues by December 1, and whose bylaws are current, having been revised within the past five (5) years. The Special Writer Division is non-graded and limited to students whose physical, cognitive, or mental health challenges meet ADA guidelines. Qualifying students entering this division create their own essay but may receive non-artistic accommodation and assistance from an adult.

Criteria

- **Students in grades 9 – 12** must write a minimum of 750 words, typed and double-spaced with Times New Roman 12 Font and 1"
- **Students in grades 6 – 8** must write a minimum of 500 words, typed and double-spaced with Times New Roman 12 Font and 1"
- **Students in grades 3-5** may submit a maximum of 250 words, typed or handwritten;
- **Students in grades K-2** may submit a maximum of 100 words, typed or handwritten.
- **Special Writers** may submit entries typed or handwritten.
- In all categories, adherence to the theme, originality, clarity, thought, and skill in standard written English will be judged.
- The theme **must** be used as the essay title and cannot be changed or altered in any way.

Send essays and completed applications no later than **Friday, January 6, 2017** to:

Bertha Thompson
NNCPTAs Citizenship Essay Chair
1200 75th Street
Newport News, VA 23605-1802



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OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
2017 CITIZENSHIP ESSAY PROJECT

"We the people...why vote?"

Due to District Director by February 1

CATEGORY: (Please Select Only One)

SPECIAL WRITER ___ GRADE K-2 ___ GRADE 3-5 ___ GRADE 6-8 ___ GRADE 9-12 ___

(Please print or type)

NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS _____

PRINCIPAL'S NAME _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

LOCAL PTA/PTSA UNIT _____

COUNCIL PTA _____ DISTRICT PTA _____

We certify that this is the original work of the student. We also understand that, if selected, the essay will be published.

(Student's Signature)

(Parent or Guardian Signature)

STATE AWARDS (Checks are made payable to the student):

- 1st PLACE: \$250
2nd PLACE: \$125
3rd PLACE: \$50

(For District Use Only - Deadline for District to Submit the District's Winner is March 1)

- I certify that this local unit is in good standing with Virginia PTA and meets all guidelines;
I certify that this entry is a district winner and is forwarded to Virginia PTA for judging.

(Number of Essays Judged on District Level)

(District Director's Signature)