

VIRGINIA PTA
2010 CITIZENSHIP ESSAY PROJECT
Due: February 1 to NOVA District

Information provided by Local Unit Resource Guide, Section VII, 2009-2010

Virginia PTA is proud to sponsor a Citizenship Essay Project. The 2010 theme is “**Strong Citizens - Strong Communities**”. 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 6 – 12 presently enrolled in schools with PTA/PTSA units in Good Standing. A PTA in Good Standing is one who has paid state and National Dues by December 1, and bylaws are current, having been revised within the past five (5) years.

Criteria

Students in grades 9 – 12 must write a **minimum of 750** words, typed and double-spaced using Times Roman, 12 Font, using 1” margins.

Students in grades 6 – 8 must write a **minimum of 500** words, typed and double-spaced and using Times Roman, 12 Font, using 1” margins.

In both age categories, adherence to the theme, originality, clarity, thought, and skill in standard written English will be judged

The theme, “**Strong Citizens – Strong Communities**” must be used as the essay title and cannot be changed or altered in any way.

Awards

Awards will be given in both age groups (Middle School grades 6-8 and High School grades 9-12).

1st Place -- \$1,000 Savings Bond

2nd Place -- \$500 Savings Bond

3rd Place -- \$250 Savings Bond

All entries must be forwarded to your District Director for district judging (**districts without a District Director, entries must be forwarded to the Virginia PTA State Office for processing.**) District Directors will submit winning entries to the Virginia PTA State Office for state level judging.

Deadline for submitting to your District Director: February 1, 2010 (Postmarked)

Official Entry Forms should be mailed to:

Debbie Kilpatrick, District Director
Northern Virginia District PTA
13301 Green Mallard Court
Clifton, VA 20124

Application

Applications for the Citizenship Essay Project are located at the following locations.

Virginia PTA web site at www.vapta.org
Virginia PTA Local Unit Resource Guide
Contact Virginia PTA at info@vapta.org

Procedures

Local unit PTA/PTSA presidents and school staff promote the Citizenship Essay Project within their individual schools.

Schools must send essay and completed application form to their District Director
(See mailing address below)

FAXES are not permitted

Questions:

Northern Virginia District PTA at director@novadistrictpta.org or NOVADD@vapta.org

Virginia PTA Office at info@vapta.org

Essay winners will be notified in April or May 2010 and featured in one or more of Virginia PTA's official Publications (Virginia PTA *Bulletin*, Virginia PTA web site www.vapta.org and Virginia PTA VOICE).

Deadline for District Directors to submit to the state level: March 1, 2010 (Postmarked)

**Virginia PTA
1027 Wilmer Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227-2419
1-866-4VAKIDS
804-264-1234 (Richmond area)
info@vapta.org**

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
2009 CITIZENSHIP ESSAY PROJECT
“Strong Citizens – Strong Communities”**

Due to District by February 1, 2010

(Please print or type)

NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (only winners will be contacted for SSN)

SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

PRINCIPAL'S NAME _____

LOCAL PTA/PTSA UNIT _____

COUNCIL PTA _____

DISTRICT PTA _____ Northern Virginia 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

1st PLACE: \$1,000 SAVINGS BOND

2nd PLACE: \$500 SAVINGS BOND

3rd PLACE: \$250 SAVINGS BOND

(For District Use Only)

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)