

**CIVIC PRIDE**®

*Hosts*

# 2017 Civic Engagement Essay Contest

**DEADLINE:** Thursday, October 12, 2017

## Who is Eligible?

Oakland-Bay Area Middle and High School Students in Grades 6 through 12

## Essay Question

'How can I make my community a better place to live, work and grow?'

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**Civic Pride, Inc.** is 501c(3) nonprofit volunteer youth-serving organization. It was founded in 1989 to provide Oakland and Alameda County youth the opportunity to develop the attitudes, behaviors and leadership skills to become college, career and community ready! Civic Pride developed its 'Five Pillars of Leadership and Responsible Citizenship™' which are:

Pillar #1: Character Development

Pillar #2: Civic Engagement

Pillar #3: Cultural Competency

Pillar #4: College Readiness

Pillar #5: Career Preparation

**Rules for Middle School Students:** Middle school students are to write a maximum 250 to 300-word essay about the benefits and reasons why volunteering in one's community is important, or how to make one's own community a better place to live, work and grow. Students are encouraged reflect on, and use their own civic engagement experiences as examples for demonstrating growth through learning.

**Rules for High School Students:** High school students are to write a maximum 350 to 500-word essay about the benefits and reasons why volunteering in one's community is important, or how to make one's own community a better place to live, work and grow. Students are encouraged reflect on, and use their own civic engagement experiences as examples for demonstrating growth through learning.

**Entries** will be judged on the following criteria: 1. Grade Level, 2. Adherence to Essay Guidelines, 3. Content and, 4. Writing Conventions.

**Format:** All entries must be typed, double-spaced and in 12-pitch. Contestants are to put name, age, grade, and contact information at the top of the page, followed by the contest essay.

**Prizes and Awards:** Essay Contest winners MUST attend the 'Knowledge Is Power' Youth Leadership Conference on Saturday, October 21, 2017 where cash awards, prizes and certificates will be distributed. A 'Certificate of Achievement' will be given each contestant submitting a qualifying entry at the Conference.

**Mail Your Entry To**

CIVIC PRIDE Inc.  
1300 Clay Street, Suite 600  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Fax Your Entry To**

510.654.2799

**Email Your Entry To**

civicpride@sbcglobal.net

For additional information please call 510.450.1844, or visit us online at [www.civicpride.net](http://www.civicpride.net).