



*Presented by the League of Women Voters of Polk County*

## 2017 CONTEST RULES

### SECTION 1

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of contestVOTE is to encourage young people to continue their political and civic participation beyond voting in an election by engaging a young audience through an educational, fun, entertaining video informing young Floridians of the role of citizens beyond voting. The theme is **“You Voted, Now What? - Civic and Political Participation.”**

### SECTION 2

2. **IMPORTANT DATES.**
  - 2.1. Monday, February 13th: Contest Opens to Entry Forms
  - 2.2. Monday, March 20th: Video Submission Opens
  - 2.3. Monday, April 17th at 11:59 pm: Video Submission Ends
  - 2.4. Thursday, April 20th: Judging Occurs

### SECTION 3

3. **GENERAL GUIDELINES.** Participants must be **Polk County, Florida high school students** and meet the following:
  - 3.1. Students must provide their contact information by completing, signing, and mailing their entry form to:  
[contestVote@lwvpolk.org](mailto:contestVote@lwvpolk.org)
  - 3.2. Students must agree to the contest rules by signing the contestVOTE entry form.
  - 3.3. Each student involved in a video submission or involved in creating a video submission must complete a contest entry form.
  - 3.4. Video submissions may be made by individual students or by groups of students.
  - 3.5. Students younger than eighteen (18) years of age at the time of submission must have a parent or legal guardian sign their entry form.
  - 3.6. Students may participate in creating multiple video submissions.
  - 3.7. Students may win more than one prize.

### SECTION 4

4. **RELEASES.** All entries become the exclusive property of the League of Women Voters of Polk County upon submission.
  - 4.1. No other individual, organization, entity or corporation retains or is granted any rights, privileges, or guarantees as to any submission.
  - 4.2. Participants agree to defend and indemnify the League of Women Voters of Polk County, the contest judges, the sponsors, and any and all other contest affiliates from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with their participation in this video contest.
  - 4.3. The League of Women Voters of Polk County does not grant, provide, supply, give, or otherwise bestow any guarantee, implied, express or otherwise to students and no guarantee is implied or expressed to students

as to awards, recognition, ceremonies, distribution of, or dissemination of submitted videos.

4.4. Students are solely responsible for acquiring, prior to submission, all releases, rights, consents, licenses, authorization, and permissions necessary for use of the video, without monetary compensation, that includes:

4.4.1. location permission and releases,

4.4.2. trade and brand name permission and releases,

4.4.3. individual and/or celebrity permission and releases,

4.4.4. voice, likeness, or persona permissions and releases that are mentioned, displayed, or otherwise a part of the submission.

4.5. The League of Women Voters of Polk County reserves the right, but not the obligation, to verify that all necessary permissions and releases have been obtained prior to selecting or displaying a video.

4.6. Students acknowledge, through submission of an entry, that the video and all of its elements do not infringe on any ownership rights of another.

4.7. Students agree that the League of Women Voters of Polk County, and sponsors, may, at any time, keep the video, replay, reproduce, edit, modify, disseminate, distribute, perform, or otherwise display the video or any audio portion thereof, for their own purposes and at their sole discretion.

4.8. Students agree that the League of Women Voters of Polk County may post or display the video and may remove the video at its sole discretion at any time and without notice.

4.9. The League of Women Voters of Polk County may void entries it believes have been illegally produced or are contrary to the above rules, or are in violation of any rules of this contest or a violation of any laws, codes, or rules of the state of Florida or of Polk County.

4.10. If technical or other difficulties compromise the contest, the League of Women Voters of Polk County may cancel, modify, or postpone the contest without notice. Should this occur, the League of Women Voters of Polk County reserves the right to determine a winner(s) from the submissions received before such cancellation, modification or postponement.

## SECTION 5

### 5. VIDEO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES. **All entries must be 1-3 minutes in total length.**

5.1. Submission videos must include a description of how the video promotes voter registration and voting among young people and must include the student's school, grade, and teacher name (if the teacher is advising students regarding the submission).

5.2. Video submissions will not be considered if it has or seems to contain: any violation of copyrights or other intellectual property rights, profanity, nudity, violence, obscenity, an endorsement of drug or alcohol use, an endorsement of any illegal activity, any depiction of drug or alcohol use, any depiction of illegal activity, any commercial endorsement, any derogatory characterization of any person based on: age, race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, marital status, mental or physical disability, citizenship, creed, national origin, physical appearance or political affiliation.

5.3. Discussions and images regarding the issues surrounding the legalization of medical marijuana in Florida, the facts regarding amendments pertaining to such issues, and efforts to educate young voters on such issues are appropriate content in video submissions. However, the endorsement of drug or alcohol use, the endorsement of any illegal activity, the depiction of any drug or alcohol use, or the depiction of any illegal activity in a video submission will result in disqualification of said submission.

5.4. Video submissions must contain the following facts and information:

5.4.1. Definitions of Civic Participation and Political Participation.

5.4.2. The Common Good is that which benefits society as a whole, in contrast to the private good of individuals and sections of society (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*).

5.4.3. What are the benefits for young people involved in political and civic participation.

5.4.4. Political and civic participation is essential to maintaining a vibrant democracy.

5.5. Videos should be submitted at <http://www.youtube.com/user/contestvote> or links emailed to [contestVote@lwvpolk.org](mailto:contestVote@lwvpolk.org).

## SECTION 6

6. JUDGING CRITERIA. Members of the League of Women Voters of Polk County's Board of Directors will name the judges. Judging criteria are as follows:
- 6.1. Clarity of Message: Address importance of young people's political/civic participation, including supporting facts and arguments – 20 %,
  - 6.2. Relevance to Youth: Establish and communicate the relevance of political/civic participation on a personal and community level – 20 %
  - 6.3. Motivational Power: Audience Appeal to Youth Population – 20%,
  - 6.4. Creativity/Originality – 20 %,
  - 6.5. Technical Merit: Video/Audio/Production Quality – 20 %.

## SECTION 7

7. PRIZES. Winners are awarded:
- 7.1. **1<sup>st</sup> Place – \$700**, distribution of award winning video to targeted Polk county schools, public recognition at winner's reception award ceremony, engraved plaque, and flag pin;
  - 7.2. **2<sup>nd</sup> Place – \$350**, public recognition at winner's reception award ceremony, engraved plaque, and flag pin;
  - 7.3. **3<sup>rd</sup> Place – \$150**, public recognition at winner's reception award ceremony, engraved plaque, and flag pin;
  - 7.4. Honorable Mention(s) – certificates, flag pin, and recognition at award ceremony;
  - 7.5. Participation – certificates for all participants, flag pin, and recognition at award ceremony; and
  - 7.6. Select video submissions will be posted on the contestVOTE website and on the League of Women Voters of Polk County's Facebook page.