

# Y VOTE Contest Rules

## Who is Eligible

Any student in a participating high school in Somerset or Middlesex County, whether or not you will be of voting age this year.\*

## Important Dates

- Deadline for Submission of Entries: May 1, 2022
- Announcement of Winners: May 19, 2022

## Contest Parameters

- Submit either a persuasive essay of up to 500 words or a video of up to three minutes in length focused on inspiring your peer group and others to vote in the upcoming Primary and General Elections and in all future elections. TikTok videos will **NOT** be accepted.
- Entries should be creative, effective and inspirational. They should act as a call to action on the importance of using your vote to influence the direction of our Democracy. Entries should address why it is critical to our Democracy to make voting accessible to all citizens. We encourage you to include social issues of importance to you and personal narrative elements.
- Entries may not include endorsements or criticisms of particular candidates.
- Essays must be submitted by individual students, but videos may be submitted by either an individual or by a team, including all names who worked on the video.

## Prizes

Two \$500 prizes will be awarded, one to the best essay and the other to the best video. If the winning video is submitted by a team, the prize will be shared among the members of the team. Notable non-winners will be acknowledged with Honorable Mentions.

## Submission of Entries

- Essays must be sent as PDF files to the following email address: [YVoteContest2022@gmail.com](mailto:YVoteContest2022@gmail.com). They must have a cover page including the author's Name, Age, Grade, Phone Number, and High School. The author's name should not be included anywhere in the essay except the cover page.
- Videos must be uploaded to the contestant's own YouTube account with an "Unlisted" setting. A link to the video must be sent to the following email address: [YVoteContest2022@gmail.com](mailto:YVoteContest2022@gmail.com). The email must contain the following information for all members of the team: Name, Age, Grade, Phone Number, and High School.

## Contest Results

Winners and Honorable Mentions will be announced at an awards ceremony on May 19, 2022 and winning entries will be posted on the LWV Website and shared on social media and with local news outlets.

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\* Members and interns of the League of Women Voters of Greater New Brunswick are ineligible to enter.