

CONTEST

The United States Courts of Appeals along with the United States District Courts for the Seventh and Eighth Circuits are hosting a Bill of Rights contest and we want you and your family to be a part of it!

School aged children in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin are encouraged to submit an essay, poem, video, photograph, song, or piece of art on the importance of the Bill of Rights. Students can be as creative as they like! Please limit essays to no more than 500 words, and videos to 3-5 minutes or less.

A grand prize winner from each of the three age groups (K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 grade) will be awarded a \$500 cash prize, and have their name and submission shared on the websites of the participating United States District Courts. Semi-finalists from Illinois will receive an electronic gift card valued at \$50.

Submissions will be accepted **Thursday, October 1, through 5:00pm on Saturday, October 31.**

Submissions from students residing within the state of Illinois should be emailed to Education@ilnd.uscourts.gov. Please include the following information in the body of your email:

- Student's full name
- Grade
- County and state of residence
- School (or note if homeschooled)
- If you heard about the contest from your teacher, please include their name

No identifying information should appear on the entry itself. If you have created a piece of art for your entry, please photograph or scan the art and attach it as a photo.

Semi-finalists will be notified before Thanksgiving and grand prize winners will be announced at a special virtual event for families on the enduring rights afforded to Americans by the Bill of Rights. The virtual event will take place on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6pm Central/7pm Eastern. **Semi-finalists must be present to win the grand prize.**

For questions please contact [Lauren Thiel, Public Services Administrator for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, at Lauren_Thiel@ilnd.uscourts.gov.](mailto:Lauren_Thiel@ilnd.uscourts.gov)

Teachers, if sharing this contest with your class, make sure you remind your students to list your name on their submission! All teachers whose names are submitted will be entered into a prize drawing. The more students who list your name on their application, the more chances you will have to win! Please forward and share this announcement with other teachers and students who may be interested.

BILL OF RIGHTS DAY FAMILY EVENT

The Bill of Rights and You

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6pm CT/ 7pm ET

Join the U.S. Courts to celebrate the anniversary of the Bill of Rights! Hear from federal judges and attorneys to learn more about the Bill of Rights in Action.

The virtual event is open to all families and fans of American Civics! RSVP is not required, but if you sign up at the following link, you will receive an email reminder with the Zoom invitation in early November -

<https://forms.gle/VTbgM5LEgZJPFeGY8>