

MAKE YOUR MARK

Get Out The Vote: American Democracy Poster Contest

The League of Women Voters of the Cooperstown Area believes it is essential to engage young people with the founding principles of American democracy, and the importance of safeguarding voting rights and free elections for all citizens. We hope that this contest will promote involvement and change in our communities and country and emphasize the impact of voting.

A Poster Contest for Students: Grades 9–12

Students are invited to design a poster that highlights the importance of voting and encourages people to go out and vote. The poster can be comprised of any medium, including but not limited to painting, drawing, photography, collage/mixed media, digital art, and fiber art. It may be any size, but no larger than 16 inches wide by 20 inches high. It must be original artwork, no artificial intelligence allowed.

Who Can Participate?

Students in the Cooperstown, Cherry Valley/Springfield, Milford, Richfield Springs, BOCES, BOCES New Vision Program, and homeschooled students. All students are encouraged to participate.

Enter Your Poster

Bring your finished poster to the Cooperstown Graduate Program, 5838 Route 80, Cooperstown, NY. Teachers are encouraged to collect the posters and deliver them, by September 25, 2026, or call CGP at 607-547-2586 to pick them up.

Posters will be judged for creativity and effective messaging, and prizes for the top entries will be awarded in October:

**1st place/\$500, 2nd place/\$300,
3rd place/\$100, Honorable Mention:
4 prizes/\$50.00 each**

All posters will be exhibited locally throughout October, and early November 2026, leading up to the mid-term elections.

How to Get Started?

Begin by researching voting. Some resources are provided below. Learn about the history of voting in the United States and why it is so important. Then think about why you think voting is important and how you want to urge people to vote with your poster.

Recommended Readings

We the People: The United States Constitution Explored and Explained, by Aura Lewis and Evan Sargent

The Greatest Sentence Ever Written, by Walter Isaacson

Rock the Vote:

[www.rockthevote.org/programs-and-partner-resources/The League of Women Voters](http://www.rockthevote.org/programs-and-partner-resources/The-League-of-Women-Voters)

League of Women Voters, Expanding Voter Access:

www.lwv.org/voting-rights/expanding-voter-access

The National Constitution Center's Educational Resources:

www.constitutioncenter.org/education/constitution-101-curriculum

The Annenberg Learner's "Democracy in America" Series:

www.learner.org/classroom-resources/

The Library of Congress:

www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/elections/voters/

PBS: Value Norms: An Insider's Look at How Elections Work | A Citizen's Guide to Preserving Democracy

<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/value-norms-how-elections-work-video/a-citizens-guide-to-preserving-democracy/>

PBS: The History of Voting Rights Interactive Timeline

<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/ush22-soc-votinghistory/the-history-of-voting-rights-interactive-timeline/>

Questions?

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