



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF SOLANO COUNTY

# Essay Contest

## What Democracy means to Me



Share your voice. Inspire your community.



Write a 250 word essay  
expressing what democracy  
means to you.



### ESSAY GUIDELINES

- 250 words maximum
- Original work must be that of the student
- AI can only be used in the editing phase
- Content must reflect the student's own ideas and voice
- Submitted essay must not have been previously published
- Be respectful, thoughtful, and inclusive in your writing

### WHO CAN ENTER?

Students must be  
**16 years old to participate.**

If you are under 18,  
you must have  
parental approval  
to enter.



### SUBMISSION RULES

- Upload your essay to [LWVsolano@gmail.com](mailto:LWVsolano@gmail.com)
- Deadline: No later than **October 15, 2026**
- Include the completed submission form below
- Essays will be judged on originality, clarity, and impact



### PRIZES

1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE WINNER **\$100**

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE WINNER **\$50**

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE WINNER **\$25**



### ESSAY CONTEST SUBMISSION FORM

(Complete and include with your essay when you email it to [LWVsolano@gmail.com](mailto:LWVsolano@gmail.com))

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child to submit this essay to the  
League of Women Voters of Solano County.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# VIDEO CONTEST

## Why Vote?

Create a short video (less than 1 minute)  
that inspires others to use their voice and vote!



### VIDEO GUIDELINES

- Video must be 60 seconds or less
- Original work must be that of the student
- AI can be used in the development of the video (ideas, scripting, editing, visual effects, etc.), but the final product must reflect the student's authentic voice and creativity
- You may use images or video of others only with their signed permission
- Videos must be appropriate, respectful, and inclusive
- Video may be filmed horizontally or vertically for TikTok or Instagram

### POSTING RULES



- Your video may be posted on TikTok or Instagram
- If posting on TikTok:  
Use appropriate music and follow TikTok community guidelines
- If posting on Instagram:  
You may post to Reels
- Tag (if posting): #WhyVote #LWVSolano
- Do not include anyone's personal information
- Be kind, be creative, be you!

### WHO CAN ENTER?

Students must be  
16 years old to participate.

If you are under 18,  
you must have  
parental approval  
to enter.



### SUBMISSION RULES

- Upload your video to [LWVsolano@gmail.com](mailto:LWVsolano@gmail.com)
- Deadline: No later than **October 15, 2026**
- Include the completed submission form below
- Videos will be judged on creativity, message, and impact



### PRIZES

1ST PLACE WINNER **\$100**  
2ND PLACE WINNER **\$50**  
3RD PLACE WINNER **\$25**



### VIDEO CONTEST SUBMISSION FORM

(Complete and include with your video when you email it to [LWVsolano@gmail.com](mailto:LWVsolano@gmail.com))

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child to submit this video to the  
League of Women Voters of Solano County.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



One minute  
can make a  
big difference.  
Why vote?  
Tell the world!