

LWVPGH High Voter School Voter Outreach 2019-20

Amy Kleissas, Chair

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We kicked off the High School Project in February 2020 with a successful visit to South Allegheny High School. Six more uplifting high school visits followed to McKeesport Area, Elizabeth Forward (*who won the Governor's Civic Engagement Silver Award*), Chartiers Valley, Brentwood (*who won the Governor's Civic Engagement GOLD Award*), Clairton City, and Westinghouse Academy (PPS). Our team also visited "My Place" at Uptown Lofts, which provides housing and support for young people over 18 years old who have been a part of the Child Welfare system.

The **COVID-19 shutdown** caused five scheduled high school visits to be suspended: Plum Borough, Chartiers Valley (lunchroom drive), Penn Hills (plans to present to 500 juniors and seniors), Propel Braddock, Steel Valley, Montour (classroom lesson and school-wide voter registration event).

A Cultural Trust Table Event called "Bookish in the 'Burgh", coordinated by Judy Clack, would have reached 200 students.

Beth Dolinar from WQED filmed our classroom presentation at Brentwood High School on 3/2/20 as a part of **WQED's Voter Information Project-- Campaign U**. Six amazing student interviews were also filmed. "**The Youth Vote**" segment along with three others can be viewed at <https://www.wqed.org/campaignu>.

Diana Nelson Jones (**Post-Gazette**) positively highlighted Voter Service and the High School Project in an **online article** on 3/2/20.

We presented to 600 students and received 490 registrations with the help of our dedicated presenters and committed volunteers before the pandemic suspended our in-person lessons. We have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students and teachers about our program!

In response to school closures in the spring, our team created a **digital "Voting Made Easy" lesson** with a link to the online and paper Voter Registration Application. We included opportunities for teachers to extend student learning and a copyright line. **An updated "Voting Made Easy" digital lesson with supporting documents is now posted on the Voter Resources page.**

For students during the summer and fall, we created **four short tutorial PDFs and a number of infographics now posted on the Voter Resources page.**