



## 2020 Essay Contest

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. This year, the League of Women Voters celebrates its centennial year. The League of Women Voters of Piedmont (LWVP) is sponsoring an essay contest open to all high school juniors and seniors currently enrolled in Piedmont High School or Millennium High School.

### Contest Rules

Content: Your essay should answer the question, “As the League of Women Voters celebrates its centennial year, and in this Presidential election year, how can the youngest generation of eligible voters engage to create a more perfect democracy?” You may, but are not required to, rely on outside sources that are properly cited within the text and in a bibliography. We do not require a specific format for your citations or bibliography, but please insure you include enough information to allow us to readily verify your sources. Citations do not count toward your total number of words. Please keep in mind that this essay is not solely a research paper, but should draw on your personal experiences and insights. Your essay will be judged on originality, clarity of expression, vocabulary and style, proper grammar, punctuation and spelling. Students are encouraged to have a teacher, parent or mentor review the essay prior to submission keeping in mind that all work must be the student’s own.

Format: The essay must be 250-500 words excluding citations. Entries must be typed, double-spaced and in pdf format. Please include the following information at the top of your essay or on a separate cover page:

- title of essay
- your first and last name
- name of your school
- your current grade (junior or senior)

Submission: Please submit completed essays via email to [lwvpiedmont@gmail.com](mailto:lwvpiedmont@gmail.com).

Deadline: Due to COVID-19, **deadline extended** to May 1, 2020 at 11:59pm, Pacific Standard Time.

Prize: \$500 for first place essay

Winner will be notified by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.