SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR INSTITUTE

CHALLENGE ENTRY RULES

1. The Civics Challenge ("Contest" or "Civics Challenge") is open to all United States students currently in 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade.
2. The Sandra Day O'Connor Institute ("Institute") is the sponsor and promoter of the Contest.
3. Registrations and submissions for the 7th annual Contest will be accepted from **September 2, 2025** through **March 31, 2026**.
4. **One (1) submission per student is allowed.**
5. Categories for submission include:
   a. Video (up to two minutes in length)
   b. Original Song (written lyrics and audio or video file up to two minutes in length)
6. **The Civics Challenge topics include:**
   a. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor
   b. America 250: Which Founding Father inspires you the most and why?
   c. Legislative Branch
   d. Executive Branch
   e. Judicial Branch
   f. Citizenship: Rights, Duties & Responsibilities
7. Entrants may receive a maximum of one (1) prize per person.
8. In order to create opportunities for more students, **previous Civics Challenge winners are not eligible to enter**.
9. **S**tudent Prizes: A total of ten (10) prizes will be awarded. Five (5) $500 cash prizes will be awarded to the top five (5) middle school (6th-8th grade) submissions and five (5) $500 cash prizes will be awarded to the top five (5) high school (9th-12th grade) submissions. A total of $5000 will be awarded.
10. Videos must not exceed a total of two (2) minutes in length. Any video submitted exceeding two (2) minutes will be immediately disqualified.
11. Student winners will be selected based on merit, i.e. the quality of the submitted video. This is further broken down by: the submission's educational content and accuracy (50%); creativity (30%) and effectiveness in explaining the chosen subject matter (20%). Each entry will be judged by a panel of leading civics educators and O'Connor Institute staff.
12. Entrants must include a signed Parental Consent Form when submitting a video file.

13. Eligibility: Only residents of any of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia are eligible to participate in the Contest. This Contest is void where prohibited. By participating in the Contest, each entrant unconditionally accepts and agrees to comply with these Entry Rules.
14. No purchase necessary.
15. All prizes listed above will be awarded. No substitution of prizes will be allowed, for any reason.
16. Winners will be determined within 30 days of the end of the Contest.
17. Prizes will be mailed to winners within 30 days of the Contest winners' announcement by UPS, FedEx, United States Postal Service, or other service.
18. Representations and Warranties. Each person who enters this Contest represents and warrants as follows: (a) none of the content or information provided as part of such person's entry does or will violate or infringe upon the intellectual property rights or other rights of any third party; (b) the entry does not and will not violate any applicable laws; and (c) the entry is not and will not be obscene, defamatory, libelous, hate speech, offensive, or otherwise objectionable.
19. PR, Publicity, Promotion; Use of Personal Information Release. By participating in the Contest, each participant and winner waives any and all claims of liability against the Institute, its employees and agents, the Contest's sponsors and their respective employees and agents, for any personal injury or loss which may occur from the conduct of, or participation in, the Contest, or from the use of any prize.

    By entering a submission to the Civics Challenge, you grant the Institute and its successors and assigns permission to use any portion or all of the submission (including edited versions or combined with other entries) as well as your name, voice, image, photograph, and likeness for the purpose of completing print and electronic publications that may be used for education and development projects of the Institute, as well as marketing and advertising of the Institute and the Civics Challenge in any medium. You also give consent for your name to be used in newspaper articles, magazine articles, websites, social media accounts or other similar publications to promote the Civics Challenge, Camp O'Connor USA, O'Connor Institute Ambassadors, and the Institute in any medium in reference to your direct involvement in this education-related activity. You also agree that your name, voice and image (photograph or video) may be posted to the Institute websites or social media accounts for informational purposes regarding your involvement in a particular activity or event, or used in a Public Service Announcement, radio announcement, television commercial, social media content or television program, and any other production by or for the Institute, and that this may be done free and clear of any claim whatsoever by Parent/Guardian or child, without any compensation, and without cost to the Institute.
20. Taxes. Any valuation of the prize(s) stated above is based on available information provided to the Institute, and the value of any prize awarded to a winner may be reported for tax purposes as required by law. Each winner is solely responsible for reporting and paying any and all applicable taxes related to the prize(s) and paying any expenses associated with any prize which are not specifically provided for in the official rules. Each winner must provide the Institute with valid identification and a valid taxpayer identification number or social security number before any prize will be awarded.
21. Conduct, Judging, and Decisions. By participating in the Contest, participants agree to be bound by the decisions of Institute personnel and judges. Persons who violate any rule, gain unfair advantage in participating in the Contest, or obtain winner status using fraudulent means will be disqualified. Unsportsmanlike, disruptive, annoying, harassing or threatening behavior is prohibited. The Institute will interpret these rules and resolve any disputes, conflicting claims or ambiguities concerning the rules or the Contest, and the Institute's decisions concerning such disputes shall be final. If the conduct or outcome of the Contest is affected by human error, any mechanical malfunctions or failures of any kind, intentional interference or any event beyond the control of the Institute, the Institute reserves the right to terminate this Contest, or make such other decisions regarding the outcome as the Institute deems appropriate. All decisions will be made by the Institute and are final. The Institute may waive any of these rules in its sole discretion.

22. Miscellaneous. Void where prohibited. Odds of winning depend upon the number of participants. All videos and other materials submitted for the Contest become the property of the Institute. Because of the unique nature and scope of the Contest, the Institute reserves the right, in addition to those other rights reserved herein, to modify any date(s) or deadline(s) set forth in these Entry Rules or otherwise governing the Contest. The Institute cannot accurately predict the number of entrants who will participate in the Contest.

23. Disclaimer. The Institute makes no warranties, and hereby disclaims any and all warranties, express or implied, concerning any prize furnished in connection with the Contest. WITHOUT LIMITING THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING, PRIZES ARE PROVIDED "AS IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AND THE INSTITUTE HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL SUCH WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND/OR NON-INFRINGEMENT.

24. Governing Law. ALL ISSUES AND QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, VALIDITY, INTERPRETATION AND ENFORCEABILITY OF THESE ENTRY RULES OR THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ENTRANTS OR THE INSTITUTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONTEST SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO ANY CHOICE OF LAW OF CONFLICT OF LAW RULES OR PROVISIONS THAT WOULD CAUSE THE APPLICATION OF ANY OTHER STATE'S LAWS.

25. Employees, officers, directors and agents of the Institute and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate in the Contest. Immediate family members include spouses, (biological, adoptive and step-) parents, children, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, and those living in the same household (whether related or not).

26. A list of winners can be obtained by contacting the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, Post Office Box 66422, Phoenix, AZ 85082, or via email: info@oconnorinstitute.org after May 1, 2026.

www.OConnorInstitute.org | www.CivicsforLife.org