



# Enter 's 2012! Mayor's Contest!

Challenges can be fun and rewarding – like daring a friend that you can beat them at a race or a game. Or pushing yourself to do well on a tough homework assignment. Every time you face a challenge, it means there's an opportunity for you to make something good happen.

Mayors find themselves facing challenges all the time. Finding the money to run a city or town is a challenge. And getting all the members of a city or town's council to agree on how to solve an issue can be challenging. If you were Mayor, you would have to make decisions, everyday, to help your community be a good place to live, work and play. But you wouldn't have to make them alone. Communities are all about people working together. So, think like a Mayor and share how you would handle your city/town's challenges.

## Contest Rules

- \* The contest is open to all Maryland students enrolled in the 4th grade during the 2011-2012 school year.
- \* All essays must begin with the opening line: "If I Were Mayor, I Would..."
- \* Essays may not exceed 275 words.
- \* Only one essay may be submitted per student.
- \* Essays will be judged by contest sponsors in the following areas: essay relation to contest topic; displayed knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor; creativity; and proper use of grammar.
- \* Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher's name at the top of their essays.

## Contest Theme: Meeting the Challenge

**Look around your community and identify interesting problems or tasks. If you were Mayor:**

1. **Of these problems or tasks, which would you address?**
2. **How would you encourage your citizens to meet these challenges?**

- \* Essays must be received no later than March 30, 2012. Winners will be notified by the end of April 2012.
- \* Teachers see back for instructions and additional contest information.

## Official Entry Form

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

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sponsoring Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of essays submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL entry information mandatory**

(For teachers' use only)



## MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) founded in 1936, represents the 157 incorporated cities and towns in Maryland and several taxing districts throughout the state. A voluntary, nonprofit, nonpartisan association controlled and maintained by city and town governments, MML works to strengthen the role and capacity of municipal government through research, legislation, technical assistance, training, and the dissemination of information to its members.

### *Contest Sponsors*

**Maryland Mayors Association**  
**Injured Workers Insurance Fund**  
**Local Government Insurance Trust**

### **Teachers Instruction & Additional Contest Information**

We are pleased that your students are participating in the essay contest. Each year we receive thousands of entries. Unfortunately, some essays are disqualified because the instructions or rules aren't followed. It's important that you follow the instructions so that your essays will not be disqualified.

- Please number each completed essay at the top and enter the total number of essays on the entry form.
- You may use one form for any number of entries from your class.
- Each teacher submitting essays must provide a completed entry form. No group forms, please!
- Sometime during the month of May, the 11 regional winners along with their parents and teacher will be recognized during an awards ceremony in Annapolis. Only regional winners are notified directly. Four semi-finalists per region will receive a participation certificate.

**You must mail your entries DIRECTLY to:**

**MAYORS' CONTEST**  
**Maryland Municipal League**  
**1212 West Street**  
**Annapolis, MD 21401**

Note: To increase your students' chances of winning, use the Maryland Municipal Government Handbook enclosed with this mailing. The Handbook can also be downloaded from MML's website: [www.mdmunicipal.org](http://www.mdmunicipal.org)

(This contest is the sole initiative of the Maryland Municipal League and is not affiliated with any County Public School System in Maryland)

Questions? Call 800-492-7121 or email [sharone@mdmunicipal.org](mailto:sharone@mdmunicipal.org)

