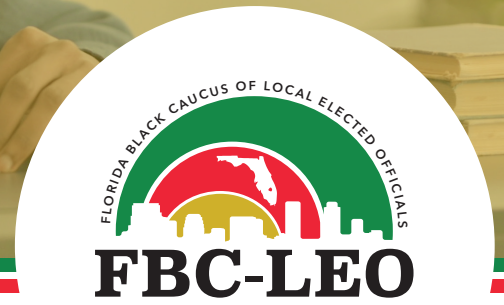


# FBC-LEO 2025 Essay Contest



## Essay Contest on the Importance of Civic Engagement Among Youth

### About

Civic engagement among youth is crucial for the health and vitality of any society. When young people actively participate in their communities – whether through voting, volunteering or activism – they not only help address immediate issues, but also lay the foundation for long-term societal progress. Their involvement brings fresh ideas, challenges the status quo and helps to build a more inclusive and representative democracy. Supporting and encouraging civic engagement among young people can lead to more vibrant, equitable communities and a stronger, more resilient society.

### Prompt

In 750 words or less, discuss the “Importance of Civic Engagement Among Youth” and the significance of young people participating in politics, community service and activism. Explore how increased civic engagement can influence societal change and the potential barriers that young people face.

### Prize

1. First place winner will receive a \$1,500 scholarship to a Florida college or technical career institution of your choice and a resolution from the **Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials** (FBC-LEO).
2. Second place winner will receive a \$500 scholarship to a Florida college or technical career institution of your choice and a resolution from FBC-LEO.
3. Third place winner will receive a \$250 scholarship to a Florida college or technical career institution of your choice and a resolution from FBC-LEO.

### Entry Requirements and Instructions

You must be an eleventh or twelfth grader in an FBC-LEO member municipality during the 2024-2025 school year.

- The essay must be typed or legibly printed (no cursive and no pictures).
- The use of AI and ChatGPT software or similar programs is strictly prohibited.
- The essay must not exceed 750 words.
- A completed entry form must be returned with your essay.
- Previous winners may not apply.
- Submit your entry by **December 6, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. ET** at [fbcleo.org/essay-contest](https://fbcleo.org/essay-contest).
- Essays received after the deadline will not be considered.

For a list of FBC-LEO member cities, towns and villages, see page 2.

### FBC-LEO Online

For more information about the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, visit [fbcleo.org](https://fbcleo.org).

### Questions?

Contact Caressa Andrews-Moye at [candrewsmoye@flcities.com](mailto:candrewsmoye@flcities.com) or 850.701.3621.

## Member Municipalities

### City

City of Alachua  
City of Apopka  
City of Bartow  
City of Belle Glade  
City of Bowling Green  
City of Chattahoochee  
City of Clermont  
City of Cocoa  
City of Cooper City  
City of Coral Springs  
City of Dade City  
City of Dania Beach  
City of Daytona Beach  
City of DeLand  
City of Eustis  
City of Fort Lauderdale  
City of Fort Meade  
City of Fort Myers  
City of Fort Pierce  
City of Gainesville  
City of Green Cove Springs  
City of Gretna  
City of Haines City  
City of Hawthorne  
City of Hollywood  
City of Jacksonville  
City of Key West  
City of Lake City  
City of Lake Wales  
City of Lauderdale Lakes  
City of Lauderhill  
City of Live Oak  
City of Madison  
City of Melbourne  
City of Miami Gardens  
City of Midway  
City of Miramar  
City of Monticello  
City of Newberry  
City of North Lauderdale  
City of North Miami  
City of North Miami Beach

City of Ocala  
City of Opa-locka  
City of Orange City  
City of Orlando  
City of Pahokee  
City of Palatka  
City of Palm Bay  
City of Palmetto  
City of Panama City  
City of Pensacola  
City of Pinellas Park  
City of Plant City  
City of Pompano Beach  
City of Quincy  
City of Riviera Beach  
City of Rockledge  
City of Sarasota  
City of South Bay  
City of St. Petersburg  
City of Starke  
City of Stuart  
City of Tallahassee  
City of Tamarac  
City of Waldo  
City of West Palm Beach  
City of West Park  
City of Westlake  
City of Wildwood  
City of Williston  
City of Winter Haven

### Town

Town of Dundee  
Town of Greenville  
Town of Havana  
Town of Haverhill  
Town of Lake Hamilton  
Town of Oakland  
Town of Welaka

### Village

Village of Indiantown

## About the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials

The Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (FBC-LEO) was established in 1985 as a nonprofit, public policy, research and educational institute.

The FBC-LEO creates a positive environment for disseminating, communicating and exchanging ideas and information among members to achieve more efficient and responsible local government administration within Florida's communities.

For more information about the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, visit [fbcleo.org](http://fbcleo.org).