

# *Indiana PTA*



## *2010 - 2011*

# *CITIZENSHIP*

# *PACKET*

**Citizenship Theme**  
**2010-2011**  
**“What Being Free Means to Me”**

**DATE:** July 2010

**TO:** PTA/PTSA PRESIDENTS  
CITIZENSHIP CHAIRMEN

**FROM:** Deb Fox, Citizenship Coordinator  
5226 Riviera Dr.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
Phone: (H) 260-484-3877 or (C) 260-403-2514  
djfox1@verizon.net



**RE:** 2010-2011 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST  
2010-2011 PTA/PTSA UNIT CITIZENSHIP AWARD  
2011-2012 THEME SEARCH CONTEST

Many PTA units throughout Indiana include the promotion of patriotism and good citizenship in their goals and plans. Their activities vary from being as simple as including the Pledge of Allegiance and a flag ceremony in their meetings to being *THE* program at the meeting. There are citizenship bulletin boards, Red/White/Blue Days, and door decorating contests. Some PTAs celebrate Veteran's Day in a special, memorable way. Several PTSA's provide voter registration opportunities or arrange for students to serve as Pages at the State House. Many creative programs have been created to support our troops deployed in other countries. You do many things, almost automatically, related to citizenship and patriotism. Just stop and think about it!

To promote good citizenship, the Indiana PTA is again sponsoring the Student Citizenship Essay Contest for students in grades 4-12. The 2010-2011 theme is "What Being Free Means to Me..." It was submitted by Aaron Rose from Robert C. Harris Elementary in Fort Wayne. I hope you will inform your students and your teachers of the contest early in the year and encourage them to participate. It offers a great opportunity for your students to think about our country, what it means to them, and what they can do for it and others. They will also be recognized for their work.

PTAs/PTSAs are invited to apply for the PTA Unit Citizenship Award. A plaque will be presented to one unit at State Convention in the spring of 2011 in recognition of their work in this year.

Students will have an opportunity again this year to have input into the selection of next year's theme as they participate in the Citizenship Theme Search Contest. Use the official "Theme Search" form that is included in this packet. Please forward their entries to me.

**The DEADLINE (postmarked/hand delivered) for ALL Citizenship entries is January 15, 2011.**

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST  
INDIANA STATE PTA  
**2010 – 2011**

***THEME: “What Being Free Means to Me...”***

GUIDELINES:

1. Each essay is limited to 2 PAGES, FRONT SIDE ONLY
2. EACH ESSAY MUST BE TYPED (**via computer**), DOUBLE SPACED, WITH NO REDUCTION IN PRINT. Please use a font no smaller than size 12.
3. The student's name, grade, or school must NOT appear anywhere on/in the essay
4. The essay must be the original work of the student
5. Only PTA/PTSA schools, in good standing, may participate. To be a unit “in good standing” with the Indiana PTA the, a unit must submit the following to the Indiana PTA State Office
  - **Officers’ List**
  - A **current Financial Report** following the yearly audit postmarked/hand delivered by the November 15 deadline
  - **Current Bylaws**...Reviewed and Approved every three years
  - **Membership Dues** postmarked/hand delivered by November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline
6. Each unit may submit 2 ENTRIES PER GRADE LEVEL, Grades 4-12
7. Each entry must have a completed, typed Student Citizenship Essay Contest entry form stapled to the BACK of the essay; one entry form is enclosed for your use; copies may be made for additional entries.
8. One Student Citizenship Essay Contest **Unit** Form must be included with your student essays.
9. Entries may be disqualified if entry forms are not completely filled out
10. **Each entry must be POSTMARKED/HAND DELIVERED no later than January 15, 2011.**
11. Mail entries to:

**Deb Fox, Citizenship Coordinator**  
**5226 Riviera Dr.**  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46825**  
**(H) 260-484-3877 or (C) 260-403-2514**  
**djfox1@verizon.net**
12. Judging will be by the following divisions: Grades 4 & 5; 6 thru 8; and 9 thru 12
13. Only PTA/PTSA essays with the theme "What Being Free Means to Me..." will be judged.
14. First place winners in each division will receive a gold medallion and a certificate
15. Second place winners in each division will receive a silver medallion and a certificate
16. Third place winners in each division will receive a bronze medallion and a certificate
17. All students submitting entries to the State level will receive certificates
18. All winners (1st, 2nd, and 3rd.) in each division will be invited to attend the Citizenship/Reflections Event held in the spring of 2010. First place winners **ONLY** each division and **ONE** accompanying adult will receive a complimentary event in ticket.
19. Points may be deducted for any guidelines not met.
20. Judging will be based on relevance to theme, grammar, completion of appropriate forms and content of essay.

**STUDENT CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM**  
**INDIANA STATE PTA**

**PLEASE STAPLE THIS FORM TO THE BACK OF EACH ENTRY**  
**(PHOTOCOPY IF ADDITIONAL FORMS ARE NEEDED)**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

PTA/PTSA President \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home)

Citizenship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home)

Office Use Only: Division \_\_\_\_\_ Entry# \_\_\_\_\_

**PTA UNIT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS**  
**INDIANA STATE PTA**

A CITIZENSHIP AWARD will be given to **ONE** elementary, middle school OR high school PTA/PTSA unit that best promotes and exemplifies good citizenship and patriotism. The award will be presented at the State Convention in 2011.

In order to be eligible for this award:

1. Answer ALL questions on the unit award form:
  - a. PTA/PTSAs should use the PTA Unit Citizenship Award Form
  
2. **POSTMARK/HAND DELIVER** the entry no later than **January 15, 2011**  
to:

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**5226 Riviera Dr.**  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46825**  
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**djfox1@verizon.net**

**STUDENT CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST UNIT FORM**  
**INDIANA STATE PTA**

PTA/PTSA Unit \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Citizenship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home)

Total number of students who participated at your school \_\_\_\_\_

Total entries submitted \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum of 2/grade)

Grades 4-5 \_\_\_\_\_ Grades 6-8 \_\_\_\_\_ Grades 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF STUDENTS SUBMITTING ESSAYS: GRADE

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ |

**PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRIES TO:**

**Deb Fox, Citizenship Coordinator**  
**5226 Riviera Dr.**  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46825**  
**(H) 260-484-3877 or (C) 403-2514**  
**djfox1@verizon.net**

**ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED/HAND DELIVERED BY January 15, 2011**  
**PTA UNIT CITIZENSHIP AWARD FORM**  
**INDIANA STATE PTA**

**DEADLINE: POSTMARK/HAND DELIVER NO LATER THAN January 15, 2011**

Mail to: **Deb Fox, Citizenship Coordinator**  
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**Fort Wayne, IN 46825**  
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Name of Local Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_

President \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Enrollment \_\_\_\_\_ How many students participated in the Student  
Citizenship Essay Contest \_\_\_\_\_

How is the American flag displayed at your school

How often do students/faculty/staff participate in flag raising ceremonies at your school?  
How do they participate?

When do they sing the national anthem or recite the Pledge of Allegiance?

What most outstanding single project did your unit do to promote citizenship within your school and community?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Citizenship Chairman

Supplemental material is welcome. Since **it will not be returned**, please make copies for your files.

THEME SEARCH  
FOR  
2011-2012 CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM  
INDIANA STATE PTA

Early in 2011 the Indiana State PTA will be choosing a theme for the 2011-2012 Citizenship Program. We would like to have a theme suggested by a student. We will base our selection of the theme on its strength of appeal to the range of students in grades 4-12. Themes may be submitted in groups by the local unit or by individual students. All theme suggestions must be **POSTMARKED/HAND DELIVERED BY January 15, 2011.**

Local Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

President \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip) (Phone)

Citizenship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip) (Phone)

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip) (Phone)

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Theme Suggestion (s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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