



## If I Were Mayor, I Would... 2019

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A statewide essay contest sponsored by AML, designed for Alaska sixth grade students to elicit the suggestions and opinions of a younger generation about their municipal government leadership and communities. The contest will give students a chance to use their language arts skills, experience and knowledge to creatively voice an opinion on what their generation perceives as the needs of the municipalities they live in.

The essay question posed to students is, "If I were Mayor, I would..."

### CONTEST RULES

- ✧ Essays must address the subject with the opening line, "If I were Mayor, I would..."
- ✧ Essays may not exceed 250 words and must be written by the student.
- ✧ Students must be enrolled in the sixth grade or be registered as a home-schooled student at the sixth grade level for the 2018-19 school year.
- ✧ Teachers are asked to submit only the top five outstanding essays.
- ✧ The deadline for submitting essay entries is **April 26, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.**
- ✧ Essays may be mailed or e-mailed, but must be legible. If an essay is faxed, the original must follow in the mail.
- ✧ One essay per student may be submitted. Each essay must include:
  - ◆ student's name and age
  - ◆ school name and address
  - ◆ teacher's name

### JUDGING CRITERIA

Essays will be screened and judged with the following criteria, each category will be worth 5 points, a perfect score will be 25 points.

- ◆ **Creativity** – does the author demonstrate curiosity and originality?
- ◆ **Clarity** - is the essay well organized?
- ◆ **Sincerity of thought** – does the author give thoughtful explanation of the major points?
- ◆ **Proper use of grammar** – is the essay clearly written and punctuated? The essay has few or no spelling errors and is reasonably paragraphed.
- ◆ **Subject relevancy** – the major points are relevant to the role of a local government leader. The author demonstrates an understanding of the local government.

### AWARDS

There will be ten, \$100.00 awards presented.  
One winner for each of AML's ten board districts.  
Announced at May 8, 2019 board meeting.  
Posted on AML website.

### CONTACT

**Alaska Municipal League/**  
Teresa Cleveland, Program Coordinator  
One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801  
phone: 877-636-1325  
fax: 907-463-5480  
e-mail: [teresa@akml.org](mailto:teresa@akml.org)  
[www.akml.org](http://www.akml.org)