



HAND's 16th Annual Children's Contest "If I Were the Mayor"

The Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers (HAND) invites the students residing in your communities to participate in our 16th Annual Children's Contest! This year we are hosting an essay competition themed, ***If I Were the Mayor***. We encourage you to engage your students in uncovering what kind of region they envision for their future. The contest is intended to help our youth reflect on their experiences and explore the legacy they see for themselves and our communities if indeed they were responsible for the outcomes for an entire jurisdiction.

The essay contest is open to children who attend elementary school (ages 6-12) and reside in properties owned or operated by HAND members. The community program staff should host its own contest and mail the **top entry** from each property to: Courtney Battle, HAND, PO Box 48386, Washington, DC 20002. Completed submissions **MUST abide by the following Contest Guidelines to be eligible for Grand Prize and Runners-Up awards.**

A \$250 cash prize will be awarded to the winner of the contest at **HAND's 29th Annual Meeting & Housing Expo Luncheon on May 26, 2020**. A \$250 cash prize will also be awarded to the winner's community program for administering the contest. Ten runners-up will each receive a \$25 gift certificate. Each submission will receive a certificate of participation.

CONTEST GUIDELINES

CONTENT

- † Essays should reflect this year's theme, **"If I Were the Mayor"**
- † In 250 words or less, entries must include interpretations of the contest theme, responding to the following questions:
 - If you were elected Mayor, what would be your most important tasks to complete? Describe them.
 - Would you help your family or friends? How?
 - How could you use your power to make your community better? Are there ways you could help people who need a home, or schools that need better materials?
- † Entries should be recorded on the pages at the end of this document – typewritten or in blue or black ink.

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION

- † The contest is open to children who attend elementary school (ages 6-12) and who reside in properties owned or operated by HAND members.
- † Community program staff should mail the **top entry** from each property to: Courtney Battle, HAND, PO Box 48386, Washington, DC 20002.
- † All submissions should include a completed entry form stapled to the back of the essay.
- † All essays must be original work.

DEADLINE

Deadline for submission of entries is **March 20, 2020 at 5:00 PM**. Please note, **PO Boxes do not accept Fedex or UPS, so plan your deliveries via United States Postal Services accordingly. Late entries will not be accepted.**

AWARDS

- † Grand Prize: A \$250 cash prize awarded to the winner of the contest. A \$250 cash prize awarded to the winner's community program for administering the contest.
- † Runners-Up: Ten runners-up will each receive a \$25 gift certificate.
- † **The grand-prize winner must be available to attend the HAND's 29th Annual Meeting on May 26, 2020 to receive their prize.**
- † All other submissions will receive a certificate of participation.

HOW ARE THE ESSAYS JUDGED?

Entries are judged on the author's ability to create a submission illustrating the "If I Were the Mayor" contest theme. Specifically, the panel of judges will consider:

- † Interpretation of the theme, "If I Were the Mayor."
- † Originality – Written copy is the original creation of student.
- † Overall writing ability – Essay shows a degree of creativity and skill for its age group.

If you have questions regarding the contest, please contact Courtney Battle, Membership Manager at cbattle@HANDHousing.org or 202.384.3764.

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(Attach completed form to the back of each submission)

Student Name: _____

Student Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____

Student Address:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: _____

Name of HAND Member Organization: _____

Name of HAND Member Property: _____

HAND Member Contact Person: _____

HAND Member Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Legal Notice:

As part of your submission of an essay associated with this contest, you acknowledge and declare that your essay submitted to HAND (Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers) is original, and that you as the writer hold exclusive copyright of your essay and hereby transfer exclusive copyright for this material to HAND for the use of the organization.

The following rights are waived by the undersigned:

- The right to make claim of ownership or suit against HAND, all or in part for the reproduction, use, or intent to generate revenue with the aforementioned essay.

The following rights are retained by HAND:

- Reproduction of said essay in future works of their own, such as marketing or public relations materials.
- HAND also retains the rights to include the article on their Web site or in future publications.
- Electronic or print copies may be made for commercial and non-commercial use.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact Courtney Battle, HAND Membership Director, at cbattle@HANDHousing.org or 202.384.3764.

Please acknowledge that you have read and understood the above notice:

Signature of parent or guardian

Date

