

The LCPS Social Science & Global Studies Academic Awards



Description of the Program and Guidelines for Participation

Ashburn, Virginia 2013-2014

In 2014, the LCPS Office of Social Science & Global Studies will continue to give students awards for solid academic work, and will continue to host a celebration at the end of the year--with an educational and inspirational speaker and an Awards Presentation.

Students' written work will be evaluated, in conjunction with student applications for "Social Science Student of the Year." These applications and nominations will allow each high school and middle school to nominate ONE student from each grade for county-wide recognition. On June 5, one student from each grade, 6-12 will be announced as the "Social Science and Global Studies Student of the Year" for the county. Prizes will be given to a "student of the year" for each grade, and to one runner-up. Prize-winners will be given awards that encourage them to continue their education after high school.

All students in grades 6-12 who are interested in Social Science topics and subjects are encouraged to submit their written work and their applications for consideration.

Also on the evening of June 5, students, teachers, and parents will hear from a special guest speaker.



Student of the Year Nominations: Information for Students

1. Students may nominate themselves for the award. Or, they may be nominated by teachers at their schools.
2. Students must submit their applications/nominations and written work by the deadlines established at each middle or high school.
3. Student written work will be evaluated by teachers at their schools according to the county-wide rubric.
4. If students wish to be considered for this nomination, they should talk with their teacher about which written work they should submit (students should have at least one formal written assignment), and should be given a copy of the "Student of the Year Nomination and Application." Both the written work and the Nomination/Application should be submitted for consideration.
5. To determine which students to nominate for county consideration, schools should consider an entire student packet--composed of the nomination papers with student written responses, and the complete single sample of a student's written work done for a Social Science class.
6. Once all of the nominations and applications have been submitted, the school Social Science and Global Studies Departments will choose ONE nominee per grade for county-wide consideration. A committee of teachers and specialists in Social Science & Global Studies will then choose the county winners for each grade. All students submitted for county-wide consideration are invited, and are expected to come, to the Awards Celebration in the evening on June 5, at Tuscarora High School in Leesburg.
7. On June 5, students, parents, teachers, and members of the Loudoun community will gather at the Awards Celebration to hear from our exceptional guest, Ms. Mirta Ojito. She will recount her experiences as a Cuban immigrant in the Mariel "boatlift," as a person with an immigrant experience in America, and as an award-winning journalist, author, and instructor at Columbia University. She will then take questions from students. After the speaker's presentation and the student questions, the awards for outstanding students in Social Science & Global Studies will be announced, and then all students and their families are invited to a reception with our special guest.

2014 Social Science Rubric for Written Work - MIDDLE School

Areas of Assessment	Explorer 4	Practitioner 3	Apprentice 2	Novice 1
CS20: Does my written work describe the issues or questions it is addressing?				
CS21: Is my work clearly written so that the reader will understand the information and ideas being presented?				
CS4: Does my written work <i>use</i> specific examples that support its points?				
CS23. Does my written work include evidence and an opinion or conclusion that logically <i>fit together</i> ?				

Total Points: _____
(Maximum=16)

Social Science & Global Studies
Student of the Year Nomination and Application
2013-2014

Student Name: _____ Nominating Teacher (If applicable): _____

Grade: _____ Teacher Signature (If applicable): _____

School: _____

Most recent report card grade in Social Science class(es): _____ (Teachers must verify grades)

In your opinion, what are the areas or topics of Social Science & Global Studies that people need to learn about? Please explain.
Also, HOW do you incorporate the important topics of Social Science & Global Studies into YOUR life? Please describe.

Choose one of the scenarios below and describe how you think a person should respond to it.

- A. There is an abandoned and open piece of property about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from your neighborhood. It is owned by the town. On this piece of property, you and your friends have begun to construct a skate park with jumps, ramps, etc. made out of wood and metal. You have had some help from one of the moms in your neighborhood because she is an experienced construction engineer, so the jumps you have built so far are well constructed. Your local government has not officially recognized this plot of land as a "park," but now wants to expand upon your idea for a skate park and make the property into a park for all ages, with slides, playgrounds, walking paths, trees, etc. in addition to the skate park. But the state government has chosen this property as a site for a state hospital and a short-term living facility for unemployed women, men, and

their children who are homeless. One of your good friends, who helped to build the skate park, had been homeless for about a year when you were in 6th grade together, so you know that there is a need for this kind of facility. Please EXPLAIN:

- What you think should happen to this piece of property.
- What actions **YOU** could take to bring about what you think should happen. Be as specific as you can.

B. One of the clubs or organizations you belong to at school or in your town has done a great job raising money for charity. You worked hard as well, doing volunteer work to collect donations. Your club's mission is simply stated "to help families and communities," and now must decide how to use the money raised. Your group has narrowed down the choices to receive the money to two: 1) a refugee camp in Jordan that is helping Syrian families learn English before they are resettled in Britain and the U.S. There is a Syrian family that escaped the civil war there just a year ago and their children attend your school. Or, 2) a shelter in Arizona that has been set up to help families who lost their homes in the wildfires that have struck the western U.S. A family that you knew from your neighborhood just moved to California this year—to a place where forest fires are raging. The club has already decided not to split the money raised. Please EXPLAIN:

- Where you think your club should send the money.
- Why you would send the money to one group rather than another.

[illegible]

What is the subject of your Social Science written work that you will submit for consideration?

Describe any school, community, or civic organizations or work with which you have been active. What have you done in your school, neighborhood, or the county to be an active *social science citizen*?

Teacher comments (include observations about class participation, participation in *school* activities, etc.)
