

Meredith College English Department

Writing Contest 2024

Strong Voices

The power of a strong voice can spark change, challenge the status quo, and inspire others to action. As a student, you have the potential to shape not only your own future but the future of your community and the world.

For this writing contest, we invite Meredith students to craft an essay (argumentative or expository) or a creative piece (personal essay, poetry, fiction) that reflects this year's Summer Reading Program theme: "Strong Voices: Empowering Student Citizenship." The content and form of your submission are up to you, but your piece should explore some of the following ideas:

- What does it mean to have a "strong voice" as a student?
- Why is it important for students to be actively involved in civic and community matters, and what impact can this involvement have?
- How can students use their voices to advocate for change, justice, or progress in their schools, communities, or on broader societal issues?
- Can you recall any examples of student-led initiatives or movements that have made a significant difference? What can we learn from these initiatives?
- Imagine a world where students lead the charge on key issues—what would that look like?

We are looking for sharp thinking, originality, and the ability to convey a powerful message about the role of students in shaping their communities and the world. We encourage you to use personal experiences, observations, and examples to illustrate the power and potential of student citizenship. Pieces will be judged on originality, depth of thought, and the ability to inspire and encourage others to recognize and amplify the strength of student voices.

The English department will award first place and honorable mention prizes in two categories: Essay Writing and Creative Writing. Entries are limited to one submission per category (you may submit one creative piece AND/OR one academic essay).

Submissions will be judged by a panel of readers, including student readers. Two first-place winners will receive a prize of \$100.

Submit your piece [here](#).

Submission deadline: Friday, October 4, 2024 by 11:59 PM