



If I Were Mayor, I Would... Student Contest



The Oregon Mayors Association and your city invite you to enter the
"If I Were Mayor..." contest.

Share your creative ideas about what you would do as mayor.

Local winners are entered into the state contest for a chance to win an **iPad Air!**

CONTEST DEADLINE: Friday, April 24 by 4:30 p.m.

Contest Rules:

GENERAL RULES:

- All submissions must be accompanied by a completed entry form. All forms for students under age 18 must be signed by the student's parent or guardian. Entry forms may be photocopied.
- Only one submission per student will be accepted at the state level.
- Previous statewide winners may participate, but are not eligible to receive a prize in the same category (grade level) they previously won in. They are eligible to receive a prize in a new category.
- State level submissions become the property of the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA).
- OMA retains the right to publish state-level entries along with the names and likenesses of each student.
- League of Oregon Cities (LOC) employees and dependents are not eligible to enter.

POSTERS:

- The poster contest is open to students enrolled in grades 4 and 5 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2019-20 school year.
- Poster size must be a minimum of 17" and a maximum of 28" in height or width.
- Students are encouraged to be creative and may use any art medium (e.g., poster paints, felt pens, colored pencils, pastels, crayons, three-dimensional art, etc.). The poster may be in color or black and white.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must appear on the back of the poster.

ESSAYS:

- The essay contest is open to students enrolled in grades 6 through 8 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2019-20 school year.
- Essays must be 500 to 1,000 words in length and typed.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must appear at the top of the essay.

DIGITAL MEDIA PRESENTATIONS (video, PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.):

- The digital media presentation contest is open to students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or being home-schooled at the high school level for the 2019-20 school year.
- Presentations must be one to three minutes in length and may be submitted on disk or emailed.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must be written on the disk or disk sleeve.

First-place statewide winners will receive their prizes during the OMA Summer Conference, to be held August 6-8 in North Bend.

For more information about the local contest please contact your city at: ramona.sorensen@ci.redmond.or.us or (541) 923-7730
For more information about the state contest please contact Debi Higgins at: DHiggins@orcities.org

"If I Were Mayor, I Would..."

2019-20 OMA Student Contest

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

(This form must accompany EVERY contest entry)

Selected Winner in each category will be awarded \$100.00

Judging Criteria

Judging of the local contest will be conducted by your city officials or other persons appointed by the mayor. A panel of Oregon mayors will judge the statewide entries. In selecting the winners, the judges will consider:

- ✓ **Creativity** – Does the student demonstrate curiosity and originality?
- ✓ **Clarity/Sincerity of Thought** – Is the submission well thought out and organized?
- ✓ **Proper Use of Grammar** – Does the submission contain proper spelling, grammar and punctuation?
- ✓ **Subject Relevancy** – Are the major points relevant to the role of a government leader? Does the student demonstrate an understanding of municipal government and the job of mayor?

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Home address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

School: _____ Sponsoring teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email address: _____ Daytime phone: _____

Signature of parent/guardian: *(Required for students under age 18):* _____

Verification Statement: *I hereby verify that the student whose name appears on this entry form produced the work submitted.*

Signature of teacher or parent/guardian: _____

Print name: _____ Relationship: _____

Submissions must be accompanied by a completed entry form and be received no later than:

April 24, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m.

(entry deadline date)

Student's last name: _____ City Represented: _____

Questions and/or electronic submission to:

Ramona Sorensen, (541) 923-7730 or e-mail: ramona.sorensen@ci.redmond.or.us

(City email address to send entry to)

What Does a Mayor Do?

Mayors have been around since 14th Century England and are at the head of the 242 incorporated cities in Oregon, from Portland (pop. 601,510) to Greenhorn (pop. 2). The mayor is the most prominent elected official in these municipal governments all across Oregon. There is only one mayor, one person who is the leader for the community, elected by the people – or in a few cases appointed by their city’s councilors – to hold the top spot in their local governments.

In their topmost spot, a mayor is the figurehead for the city, painting the picture of the culture, style, ideas and image of their community – what it is and what it wants to be. How does the community look at itself and what does it see? Mayors read these signs and share this imagery with the world. They, better than anyone, have their finger on the pulse of their communities and “get it.” Thus, the mayor is the primary spokesperson for the city and its most visible image.

Routinely, mayors preside over the elected city councils in their cities. Like a chairman of the board, they structure the meetings, bringing city business to the table and executing it with honor, integrity and dispatch, typically with good humor. Councils meet frequently and cover a wide range of community business including making the city’s laws and regulations. Some mayors vote along with the council, others simply preside, but typically can veto important laws called ordinances.

Mayors are collaborative, working together through such organizations as the Oregon Mayors Association as well as coordinating closely with the leadership of other cities, counties and the State of Oregon. Though their work is important and time-consuming, almost all mayors in Oregon serve their communities as unpaid volunteers, as do their councils.

Mayors often give an annual “State of the City” address to the community, summing up the consequential events of the preceding year. This represents a report card on the city. What mattered? What changed? How were problems faced? And finally, what opportunities and challenges lie ahead in the new year and how will they be addressed?

So the mayor is a busy person, an important person, but important and busy only in the service of the citizens of his or her community. Mayors bring ideas, energy and wisdom together at the top to make their communities a better place to live, better for all.

What Services Do Oregon Cities Provide?

City services are different in each city to meet the unique needs of the residents of the community. Even though each city in Oregon is different, just as the people who live there are different, services typically provided by cities may include those listed below. Cities do not have jurisdiction over schools or county functions such as the sheriff's department and county jails.

Many Cities Provide . . .

Public Safety



Police



Fire



Ambulance Service

Utilities



Water



Sewer



Trash Collection



Electric Power, Cable,
and/or Natural Gas

Land Use



Planning



Zoning



Code Enforcement

Transportation



Street, Sidewalk and Bridge
Construction and Maintenance



Traffic Safety



Public Transit

(over, please)

Recreation / Cultural



Parks



Recreation



Libraries



Cultural Facilities

Economic Development



Business Recruitment
and Retention



Job Creation



Neighborhood
Development



Affordable Housing

Legal



Ordinances protecting the public health,
safety and welfare of the community



Municipal Court
