

If I Were Mayor, I would...

2016 Student Contest ★ Grades 4–12



Mayor Cook and the Oregon Mayors Association invite you to enter the 2016 "If I Were Mayor, I would..." contest.



Share your creative ideas about what you would do as Tigard's mayor. Local winners in each category will be awarded a \$50 Visa gift card and recognition at the Tigard City Council meeting on May 10, 2016. The winning entries will go to Salem to compete in the statewide contest for a chance to win an iPad Air 2! Statewide winners will receive their prize during the OMA Summer Conference on July 23 in Lincoln City.

CONTEST DEADLINE: Thursday, March 31 at 6 p.m.

GENERAL RULES

- ★ All submissions must be accompanied by a completed entry form. All forms 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.
- ★ Submissions will not be returned and will become the property of the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA).
- ★ OMA retains the right to publish essays and posters along with the names and likenesses of each student.
- ★ Previous statewide winners may participate but are not eligible to receive prizes.
- ★ League of Oregon Cities (LOC) employees and dependents are not eligible to enter.

CONTEST ENTRY RULES

POSTERS: Grades 4–5

- ★ The poster contest is open to students enrolled in grades 4 and 5 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2015–16 school year.
- ★ Poster size must be a **minimum of 17 inches** and a **maximum of 28 inches** 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, 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.

ESSAY: (Grades 6–8)

- ★ The essay contest is open to students enrolled in grades 6 through 8 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2015–16 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 PRESENTATION — VIDEO, POWERPOINT, PREZI, ETC.: (Grades 9–12)

- ★ The digital media contest is open to students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or being home-schooled at the high school level for the 2015–16 school year.
- ★ Presentations must be one to three minutes in length and submitted on disc or emailed.
- ★ The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must be written on the disc or disc sleeve.

TIGARD STUDENTS ONLY — Submit your original work with a complete entry form to:

City of Tigard,

Attention: Joanne Bengtson

13125 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, OR 97223

Questions? Call 503-718-2476

Digital submissions: joanne@tigard-or.gov





If I Were Mayor, *I would...*

★ ★ 2016 Student Contest Official Entry Form ★ Grades 4–12 ★ ★

What Does a Mayor Do?

Mayors are at the head of the 242 incorporated cities in Oregon. The mayor is the most prominent elected official in municipal governments all across Oregon. There is only one mayor 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 government.

Routinely, mayors preside over the elected city council in their cities. Like a chairman of the board, they structure the meetings, bring city business to the table and execute it with honor, integrity and typically with good humor. Councils meet frequently and cover a wide range of community business including making the city’s laws and regulations.

Mayors are collaborative, working together through organizations like the Oregon Mayors Association and they coordinate 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 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 and important person in service to the citizens of his or her community. A mayor brings ideas, energy and wisdom together at the top to make their community a better place to live.

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
- ★ **LAND USE** — Planning, Zoning, Code Enforcement
- ★ **TRANSPORTATION** — Street, Sidewalk and Bridge Construction, Maintenance, Traffic Safety, Public Transit
- ★ **UTILITIES** — Water, Sewer, Trash Collection, Electric Power, Cable, and/or Natural Gas
- ★ **RECREATION / CULTURAL** — Parks, Recreation, Libraries, Cultural Facilities
- ★ **LEGAL** — Ordinances protecting the public health, Municipal Court safety and welfare of the community
- ★ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** — Job Creation, Neighborhood Affordable Housing Development, Business Recruitment and Retention

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(This form must accompany EVERY contest entry)

Judging Criteria

Judging of the local contest will be conducted by your city officials. A panel of Oregon mayors will conduct statewide judging. 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

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Home address: _____

City/state/zip: _____

School: _____ Sponsoring teacher: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

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 March 31, 2016.

Student last name: _____ City represented: _____

TIGARD STUDENTS ONLY — Submit your original work with a complete entry form to:
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