



### ABOUT MCO

The Mayors Council of Oklahoma unites Oklahoma mayors with the goal of creating effective leaders and providing a voice for collective action statewide. MCO informs, equips, and inspires Oklahoma mayors to better serve their local communities and build the State of Oklahoma. From the smallest to largest communities, they are “Many Voices: One Mission.”



Champions For Effective Local Government

### ABOUT OML

The Oklahoma Municipal League (OML), an association of Oklahoma cities and towns established in 1913, serves as the individual and collective voice of municipal government officials in interactions at both the state and national levels. The League provides services and programs to its members to assist them in better serving their citizens and communities.

Oklahoma Municipal League  
201 N.E. 23rd  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3199

# “If I Were Mayor ...”

## Annual Essay Contest for Oklahoma 8th Grade Students



The Mayors Council of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Municipal League invite ALL 8th grade students throughout Oklahoma to participate in a statewide essay contest.

## ABOUT THE CONTEST

The Mayors Council of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Municipal League invite 8th graders from home schools, public schools and private schools throughout Oklahoma to participate in a statewide essay contest, "If I Were Mayor, I Would ..." to tell others what they would do as mayor to make their city or town a better place to live.

Promoting good city government is important to Oklahoma municipalities and this essay contest provides students the opportunity to reflect on the role of the key elected official in their own community.

Our future mayors are in the classrooms and the education they receive today will help them to become good citizens tomorrow — and possibly future mayors.

The contest gives students a chance to creatively use cognitive and grade-specific language arts skills and civics/social studies language.

Entries will be judged based upon originality and appropriateness to the theme: What the writer would try to accomplish as mayor of his or her city or town and what he or she would do to make it happen. Essays must display an understanding of the mayor's position. Spelling, grammar and legibility also will be considered by the judges.

Three finalists will be chosen from the contest entries.

1st Place – \$250

2nd Place – \$150

3rd Place – \$100

Winners will be awarded at the Annual OML/MCO Municipal Government Day.



## ESSAY CONTEST RULES

Be creative with your ideas!

- The contest is open to all Oklahoma students enrolled in the 8th grade in home schools, public schools and private schools during the 2016-2017 school year.
- Essays must address the subject with the opening line beginning: "If I Were Mayor, I Would ..."
- Essays may not exceed 250 words.
- Only one essay may be submitted per student.
- Essays will be judged in the following areas:
  1. Knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor,
  2. Creativity and proper use of grammar.
- **Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher or parent's name at the top of their essays.**
- Essays must be received no later than December 16, 2016.

Additional information can be found at <http://okmayors.webs.com/ifiweremayoressay.htm>.

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

**\* One entry form may be submitted for entire class**

**\* Please make sure student's name, teacher or sponsoring adult name, and school name is on each essay.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher or Sponsoring Adult Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher or Sponsoring Adult Email/Phone Number

(required): \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail entries to Kelly Danner  
at [kelly@oml.org](mailto:kelly@oml.org)  
or mail**

**Attn: Kelly Danner  
201 N.E. 23rd Street, Oklahoma City,  
OK 73105.**