**Washington Metropolitan Chapter** **Community Associations Institute (WMCCAI)**

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**Essay/Presentation Scholarship**

**Rules**

The WMCCAI Essay Contest is open to all high-school seniors within the WMCCAI service area (the immediate Washington metro area) living within a community (i.e., a neighborhood, homeowners association, condominium association, or cooperative association).

**Requirements**

* 1. A 500-700 word essay on **“How Do You See Your Community Best Utilizing Social Media?”** Describe ways to implement social media in your community to tell a compelling story of a great place to live. Include the potential pros and cons of using social media. Your community would include your neighborhood, homeowners association, condominium, or cooperative association.
     1. The essay must be submitted in Word format and include a word count.
     2. Include contact information on the essay in case it becomes separated from the application form.
  2. A completed contest application
  3. A grade point average of 2.5 or higher
  4. A high school transcript
  5. A letter of recommendation from a school counselor or community association leader in the community where you reside.
  6. All applicants must submit a fully completed application form and all necessary statements, documents and references **no later than March 31, 2018.** Mail entries to **WMCCAI, 7600 Leesburg Pike, Suite 100 West, Falls Church, VA 22043, Attn: Scholarship Program**. It must be postmarked by the deadline to be considered. Email applications are acceptable if submitted by the deadline and the original documents are received within 4 business days of the above stated deadline; additional information submitted with the hard copy of an emailed application will not be considered. Email applications must be sent to [outreach@caidc.org](file:///\\earth\USERS\Communications\Outreach%20Committee\Scholarship%20Program\2016\outreach@caidc.org).

**Judging Criteria**

Judges will base their final decision upon:

Best overall essay/presentation of the essay topic: **How Do You See Your Community Best Utilizing Social Media?”**

1. Identification of the applicant’s community association within the essay.
2. Applicant’s demonstration of knowledge of what a community association is and how it benefits the community and residents.

**Award**

WMCCAI will grant one award of at least $1,000 for the best overall essay. The award winner will be announced within 60 days after the application deadline.

**Submissions**

All submissions become property of WMCCAI and may be printed in the chapter’s magazine, *Quorum* and/or posted to WMCCAI’s website and social media sites.

*A community association provides a communal basis for preserving, maintaining, and enhancing homes and property. Community associations manage common areas of the property; manage property interests of owners; provide services for owners; and develop a community through social activities and/or amenities.*