



Dear Teacher:

The *Young Patriot Challenge* (YPC) program is a countywide academic competition that was created by a committee of volunteers to help the schools of Merced County celebrate Constitution Week (September 13th – 17th). For students in Seventh and Eighth grades, we are having an *Essay contest*.

It is our hope that you will allow students time to engage in the activity (researching and writing the essay) as part of their classroom activities during Constitution week. There is a permission slip to send home to the parents giving us permission to read and judge the essay. Please attach the permission form to the essay so that we can identify which classroom the submission comes from.

Put all collected essays with waiver form attached into a manila envelope. Entries should be sent to YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE for Inter-District Mail. The front of the envelope should include school and teacher name and be addressed to the Young Patriot Challenge, MCOE Complex Bldg J-1 and arrive no later than September 17, 2021.

Student winners will receive awards consisting of a medal with ribbon, a certificate and a gift card and will be honored along with their parents at a special Award Ceremony to be held on October 20, 2021.

Federal law requires all federally funded schools to teach lessons about the Constitution or have Constitution related activities during Constitution week, so why not make it fun?

If you have any questions about this event, please call 358-8404 or visit the website:

www.ypcusa.net

All forms and information on the essay contest can be downloaded from the web page.