

## **Freedom Funnies Comic Strip Contest**

### **Official Rules**

#### **NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN**

Sponsor: **American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc.**

125 Broad Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10004-2400

The Freedom Funnies Comic Strip Contest (the "Contest") is designed to recognize the artistic achievements of students and to increase student awareness of the United States Constitution, the civil liberties it guarantees and the importance of both the Constitution and civil liberties in the students' daily lives. The Contest is open to schools that include grade 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9. Entries must be created by teams made up exclusively of students in any of those grades.

1. **TIMING:** The Contest starts on September 17, 2014 at 12:00:00 A.M. EDT and ends on **December 5, 2014** at 11:59:59 P.M. ("Entry Period").
2. **ELIGIBILITY.** The Contest is open only to schools including any of grades 5 - 9, and located within any state, territory or other division of the United States (a "Qualified School"). The Qualified School must authorize a representative (the "School Rep") to represent the Qualified School and its entry in all communications with the Sponsor. The School Rep must read and accept these Official Rules on behalf of the Qualified School, and the Qualified School will be deemed the "Entrant" or "you" or "your" under these Official Rules and must meet the eligibility requirements set forth herein. If an entry submitted by a Qualified School is awarded a cash award pursuant to these Official Rules, the School Rep must take any actions as required under these Official Rules including having an authorized representative of the Qualified School sign any required documentation in order for Qualified School to receive the award. Failure to do so within any required time period may cause the entry to be disqualified.

No student participating in the creation of any entry, nor any School Rep, may be immediately related to any employee or director of (1) Sponsor, (2) American Civil Liberties Union, Inc., (3) any of Sponsor's affiliates nationwide, or (4) any contractor or subcontractor assisting Sponsor in the development or administration of the Contest. "Immediately related" is defined to include relationships as spouses, parents, children and siblings, and their respective spouses, regardless of where they reside, and persons living in the same household, regardless of the nature of the relationship.

3. **HOW TO ENTER.** During the Entry Period, a minimum of five (5) students of the Qualified School must create a comic strip commemorating the U.S. Constitution and the civil liberties it guarantees (the "Entry"). An Entry can be a single panel or strips. In addition to a photograph of the Entry, each Contest application must include a short descriptive statement of approximately 50 words, written by two or more students who participated in making the comic strip. This statement should describe the Entry, including its relation to the Constitution or Constitutional issue. Teachers/administrators may assist in writing and/or transcribing the description. When the Entry is complete, the Qualified School will photograph the Entry and send the photograph (or photographs) and supporting materials via email to [ConstitutionDay@aclu.org](mailto:ConstitutionDay@aclu.org). The supporting materials must include the descriptive statement; the Qualified School's name; grades that the school enrolls; the Qualified School's mailing address and phone number; and the School Rep's name, email and direct phone number.

Limit one (1) Entry per Qualified School. Entries received after the first submission from any Qualified School in excess of the limitation will be void.

4. **ENTRY/SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.** All photographs of Entries must be in .jpeg or similar format, and each Entry must meet the following requirements to be eligible:

The Entry must be original work, created solely by students in the Qualified School, and must not infringe the copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity, or other intellectual rights of any person or entity. Photographs not originated by students (e.g., images found in magazines, newspapers, other media) must not be used as source material for the Entry.

By submitting an Entry, each Qualified School agrees that the Entry conforms to these Official Rules and that Sponsor may disqualify the Entry for any reason at any time, including if it determines, in its sole discretion, that the Entry fails to conform to these Official Rules in any way, contains unacceptable content, or is not suited to the purposes of the Contest.

5. **JUDGING.** All eligible Entries received by Sponsor will be judged by a panel of qualified judges based on the following criteria in equal percentages: (i) evidence of imagination, creativity and innovation in capturing the Constitution and civil liberties, (ii) use of artistry, and (iii) the situation, characters and punchline that enhance the Entry. The top ten (10) Entries with the highest scores will be announced on or about **December 20, 2014** and be considered the "Finalists". On or about **January 10, 2015**, the Finalists' Entries will be re-judged based on the preceding criteria. The Finalists with the three (3) highest scoring Entries will be deemed the winners. The Finalist with highest score will be the recipient of the first place prize, the Finalist with the next highest score will be the recipient of the second place prize, and the Finalist with the next highest score will be the recipient of the third place prize. In the event of a tie, the Entry among those tied with the highest score in category (ii) above will be the deemed the winner of that level of prize. Sponsor reserves the right to choose fewer than three (3) winners if, in its sole discretion, it does not receive a sufficient number of eligible and qualified Entries. Prize awards are subject to verification of eligibility and compliance with these Official Rules.

6. **WINNER NOTIFICATION.** Potential winners will be notified by telephone or email on or about **January 15, 2015** and will be required to complete an Affidavit of Eligibility, license for Sponsor's use of the Entry, and any other documents required by Sponsor, which must be returned within seven (7) days of the date appearing on the prize notification. Return of prize notification as undeliverable, failure to sign and return requested documentation within the specified time period, the inability of Sponsor to contact a potential winner within a reasonable time period or noncompliance with these Official Rules by any potential winner may result in disqualification and, at Sponsor's sole discretion, the prize may be awarded to another Entry.

7. **PRIZES (3).** First Prize: one (1) Qualified School will receive \$10,000.00. Second Prize: one (1) Qualified School will receive \$7,500.00. Third Prize: one (1) Qualified School will receive \$5,000.00. One (1) Qualified School will be selected by the Sponsor as a recipient of an honorable mention and be awarded \$2,500.00. Approximate Retail Value of all prizes is **\$25,000.00**. Winners may not substitute, assign or transfer any prize, but Sponsor reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to substitute any prize with one of comparable or greater value. Winners are responsible for all applicable federal, state and local taxes, if any, as well as any other costs and expenses associated with prize acceptance and use not specified herein as being provided.

8. **GENERAL CONDITIONS.** By participating, each Qualified School agrees to abide by these Official Rules and decisions of Sponsor and judges, which shall be final and binding in all respects relating to this Contest. Void where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws.

9. **USE OF THE WINNING ENTRIES.** Sponsor may reproduce winning Entries, online and in print, in the course of its work promoting awareness of

the Constitution and the liberties it protects. As a condition of receiving any prize, each Qualified School otherwise qualifying for a prize will be required to provide to Sponsor all rights and releases deemed necessary by Sponsor for such use. However, Sponsor will take only a non-exclusive license to reproduce any winning Entry. Each winning Qualified School will retain the original artwork of its Entry, and will be free to make other uses of the Entry and its image as the school sees fit. In announcing winners and in any other public reference to the sources of winning Entries, Sponsor will refer to the Qualified School only, without reference to any individuals.

10. **GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.** The Contest and these Official Rules are governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of New York (as distinguished from the choice of law rules) and the United States of America applicable to contracts made and performed entirely in New York and where the relevant contacts are with such state.

11. **WINNERS' LIST.** The list of winners will be posted at [www.aclu.org/ConstitutionDay](http://www.aclu.org/ConstitutionDay), on or about **January 10, 2015**.