



8th Annual Essay Contest for High School Students on Civility in Politics & Public Life

**\$2,000 Cash Award
(\$500 Honorable Mention)**

TOPIC

Utah state legislators plan to introduce a bill during the 2025 session that would forbid K-12 students in public schools from using cell phones during school hours. Compose an essay (of 600 words or fewer) *through the lens of your own experience with such technology* that takes a stand on whether such a ban is a good.

DEADLINE: Monday, December 2, 2024, before midnight
LENGTH: 600 words or less
UPLOAD ESSAY: westminsteru.edu/essay-contest (as pdf file)
CONTACT: Richard Badenhausen, Dean/Honors College
rjb@westminsteru.edu 801.832.2460



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Submit now!

Westminster University Honors College High School Civility Essay Contest Judges 2024-25

Kim Adamson is a trustee of Westminster College. She received her bachelor's degree from Westminster in 1979. Kim entered the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in 1974 and retired in May 2013 as a Chief Warrant Officer 5 having served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has also served as a law enforcement officer, specializing in mountain and swiftwater rescue operations, wilderness medicine, and hazardous materials operations. In addition to her role as a Marine, Kim is an Inactive Utah Senior Justice Court Judge.

Richard Badenhausen is dean of the Honors College at Westminster, as well as a Past President of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC). Over the past thirty years, Professor Badenhausen has published widely on the work of T. S. Eliot. He has won Westminster's Gore Excellence in Teaching Award and the Manford A. Shaw Publication Prize for scholarly achievement (twice).

Kate Bradshaw is a 2003 graduate of Westminster College with a B.A. in History and an Honors Degree. While a student at Westminster, Kate was a member of the women's volleyball and basketball teams and a very lonely, possibly the only, member of the Westminster College Republicans club. She is a past Chair of the College's Alumni Board and served on the alumni board for six years. She serves the residents of Bountiful as a member of the City Council. Professionally, Kate is the Director of Government Affairs for the law firm of Holland & Hart. She assists firm clients with business concerns and issues before the Utah State Legislature, Governor, state agencies, and local governments. For over twenty years, Kate has been deeply involved in government and public relations, campaign strategy, PAC fundraising, and media relations in Utah.

Chris Cunningham ('15) works in federal government affairs and health care policy for Boehringer Ingelheim. He previously worked in government relations for California Life Sciences and spent more than six years on Capitol Hill working for four members of Congress, including Rep. Ben McAdams (D-UT), advising legislators on domestic policy. Chris earned his Bachelor of Science in economics and finance with an Honors degree at Westminster. He lives in Washington, D.C. and previously served as president of the LGBT Congressional Staff Association.

Taylor Stevens ('18) is an investigative reporter at FOX 13 News in Salt Lake City, a station owned by the E.W. Scripps Company. Before trying her hand at broadcast news, she worked as a freelance reporter on the "Lethal Restraint" project, a three-year investigation by the Associated Press's Global Investigations Team into police force that wasn't meant to kill. She also spent nearly five years working as a government and politics reporter at *The Salt Lake Tribune*. Taylor holds a master's of investigative journalism degree from Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts in communication from Westminster University. While at Westminster, she was an involved member of the Honors College and served for two years as the editor-in-chief of *The Forum*, the university's student-run news organization.

Tamara Stevenson, EdD, is the vice president of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and chief diversity officer at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah. In this role, she provides direct oversight of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and leadership toward strengthening and sustaining, diversity, advancing equity, and cultivating inclusion in the college's structures, policies, and practices. Her research has been recognized by the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor's National Center for Institutional Diversity with a 2009 Emerging Diversity Scholar Award given to acknowledge her "as a promising contributor to research, practice, or teaching related to diversity." *Utah Business Magazine* selected Dr. Stevenson as a 2020 honoree of the publication's "30 Women to Watch."