



BETTER COMMUNITIES THROUGH SOUND GOVERNMENT

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2024

VML accepting submissions for “If I Were Mayor” essay contest for 7th and 8th graders. Regional winners receive \$150. Statewide winner receives \$250.

The Virginia Municipal League (VML) invites **7th and 8th grade students who reside or attend school in a VML member locality*** during the 2023-2024 school year to submit an entry for our “If I were Mayor” essay contest.

**The full list of VML member localities is available at www.vml.org/Organization/Local-Government-Members.*

Eight regional winners selected from around the state will each receive a \$150 gift card and a plaque. One statewide winner chosen from the regional winners will receive a \$250 gift card and a plaque. The runner-up from the region that receives the statewide award will become that region’s winner.

Winning essays will be featured in the May issue of VML’s magazine [Virginia Town & City](#).

What's new for 2024: In past years, the essay content was limited to 7th graders. Beginning this year, participation has been expanded to include both 7th and 8th graders.

Complete rules and regulations as well as instructions on how to submit entries and a link to view past winning entries are available at www.vml.org/Opportunities/Essay-Contest.

Deadline to enter is Monday, March 18.

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