FLM 2019-2020 Essay Contest Winners

First Place Winner
Rithika Shankar
River City Science Academy Mandarin, Jacksonville

Second Place Winner - Tie
Brady Coffey-Keller
LLT Academy, Tampa

Second Place Winner - Tie
Isabella Renert
Coral Springs Middle School, Coral Springs

Third Place Winner
Anders Lindenberger
Orlando Science Schools – Middle School, Orlando
If I were elected Mayor, first and foremost, I would pledge to myself to serve my community with utmost responsibility, love, dedication. I would want to keep everyone safe, and happy in the community. To do so, I would make sure to take everyone’s needs into consideration.

My primary focus would be to enforce and ensure road safety because the number of accidents in Jacksonville FL is skyrocketing. Life is very valuable, and we only get to live once. I would educate others through media and in-person visits the importance of road safety, such as no texting while driving, properly securing heavy loads in the vehicle, and no driving under influence (DUI). These kinds of things can cost people their lives, so it is important to be cautious over such things.

My next priority would be to focus on children's lives and education. Many kids by the age of 16 start experiencing drugs and alcohol, due to peer pressure, depression, etc. I would start community programs with periodic interaction with youths and emphasize on ill effects of drugs and alcohol. In addition, I would motivate a positive and healthier lifestyle, so teens don’t feel the need to go to drugs as a solution for their problems.

I believe that a mayor has certain responsibilities that he/she must fulfill. If I was the mayor, I would do my best to keep everyone safe, keep everyone healthier, and have an overall more positive community.
"If I Were Elected Mayor"

If I were elected mayor I would make it a priority to improve park and recreation offerings and work to make the community more eco-friendly.

Many communities have wonderful parks that families are not taking full advantage of. As mayor I would work to implement a low-cost after school child care program. This would allow families to have a safe and affordable place to send their children after school. Kids would also benefit from having the opportunity to get outside and be active at the park program after school, rather than sitting at home watching television or playing video games.

As mayor I would also work to establish a more eco-friendly community. I would meet with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the use of solar panels. The businesses in the community would be encouraged to set an example by using solar panels. I would also install more recycling containers throughout the city. There should be a recycling container near every trash container. More people may recycle if there is a convenient option available. In addition, one day per month would be dedicated to community clean-up.

Home Rule helps make our city great because the city officials that live here want to work diligently to create a community they can be proud to live in. They are making decisions that will directly impact the community they live in. Home Rule makes us feel that we are all in this together.
If I Were Mayor Essay

If I were mayor for the day, I would help the homeless, make sure the city is clean, and make sure the schools are safe.

To help the homeless I would create shelters and provide them with showers, razor blades, soap, and new clothes. Next I would go to local businesses and suggest they can help the homeless by offering them a job. I want to make sure everyone is safe in the city and would start a citizens on patrol program allowing the citizens of the city to help keep an eye on daily activities. I would make sure that all of the grass, trees, bushes, and plants look green and nicely cut. Also, I would power wash all of the buildings and sidewalks. But most importantly, I would attract new businesses to Coral Springs. Offering incentives, which would bring more people to spend more money in the community at restaurants or the local supermarkets.

I would make a great impact as mayor because I will create a safer town for families and children to live in. Home Rule allows me to see the issues the city has by living in it. I can also see where improvements need to be made.

All in all, I believe I would be a worthy mayor of Coral Springs. My best intentions would be for the people.
IF I WERE ELECTED MAYOR

Anders Lindenberger

January 14, 2020

If I were elected mayor, I would begin work immediately on issues relating to homelessness in this city. My focus would be on rehabilitation and job training centers. These centers would be used for housing the homeless, rehabilitating them, and giving them job training so they may begin to earn money. This would be beneficial to our city, since there is a large homeless population. Many people would support this as well, because of the overwhelming number of homeless individuals living in Winter Garden. Home rule allows the citizens add to and edit the city charter; giving them the ability to vote on what they want for their city or town, and therefore focus on what the citizens find important. Home rule ensures that the governing body is closer to the community for which it serves, meaning the decisions are tailored to fit the community’s needs more closely. This provides the citizens of the community with the opportunity to vote on anything at the city level and create positive changes for the future; often creating a more agreeable outcome for the majority. If I were elected mayor, I would improve the quality of life for all my constituents.