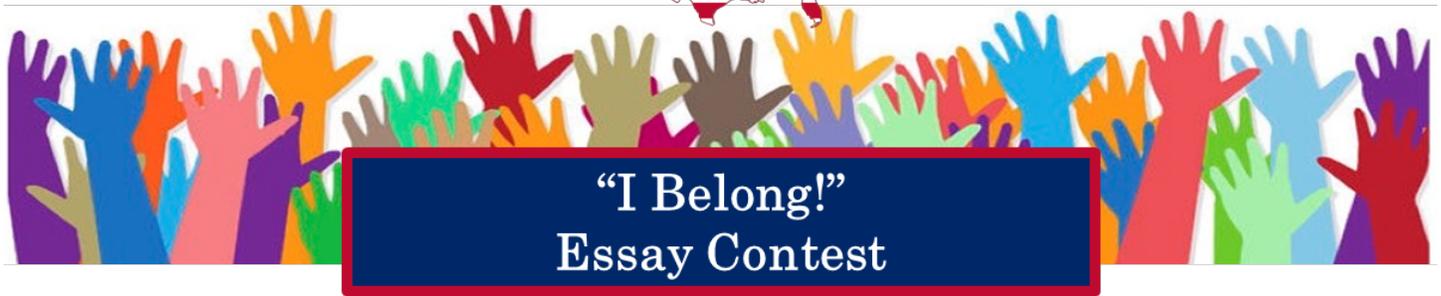


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An activity of
**Liberty
Amendments
Month**



What: Vienna nonprofit Belong! is sponsoring an essay contest as part of the Town of Vienna's first annual *Liberty Amendments Month*, a new initiative celebrating four amendments to our Constitution that provide a common opportunity for all to help shape our nation and benefit our diverse heritage. Essay contest winners will be invited to share their writings at the *Town of Vienna's Multicultural Festival* on July 17th, 2021, the culmination of the month-long celebration.

Essay Rules:

- You must be in 5th or 6th grade and attend one of the following Vienna elementary schools: Cunningham Park, Louise Archer, Marshall Road, or Vienna Elementary.
- You may only submit one essay, and it must be your very own original work.
- A parent, guardian, or mentor is required to sign stating that the essay is your original writing.
- You must submit your essay by email or postmarked **June 25, 2021**.

Instructions:

- Write a short essay (350 words maximum) answering this question: "How do I belong?" Here are some questions to guide you as you consider how to approach the essay:
 - With the skills I have, how can I contribute to our community?
 - How does my ethnic background compliment/complete our nation?
 - How does my personal experience demonstrate that I *belong* in this country?
 - Do I have a unique story that adds strength or beauty to our community?
- You are encouraged to work with a mentor to help you with brainstorming and light editing.
- Perfect English is not required, but a careful, thoughtful response is!
- Fill in the application (opposite side).
- Submit your application and essay: email to belongvienna@gmail.com or mail to Belong! at 133 Park Street, NE, Vienna, VA 22180 by June 25. You can ask your teacher to help submit your form prior to the completion of school.

Prizes*:

- Top 3 essays: \$100 each
- Next 5 essays: \$50 each

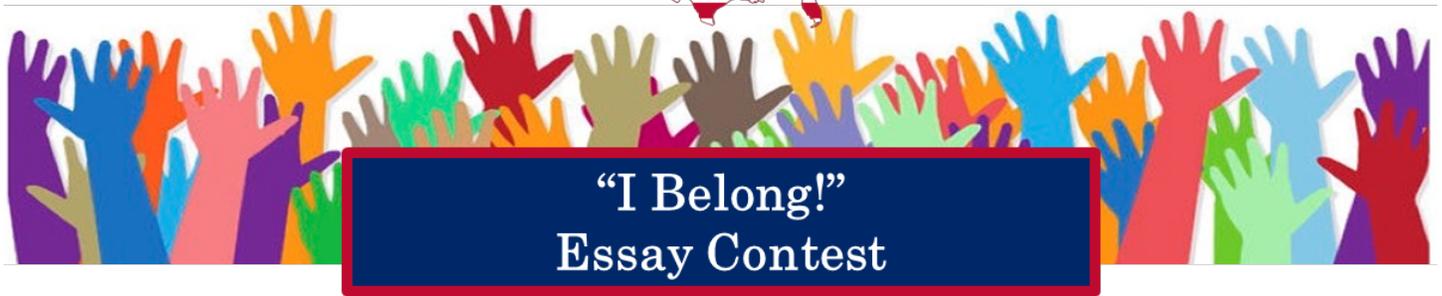
Questions? Contact Katie Balberchak, katie@belongvienna.org.

**Belong! reserves the right to limit the award of prizes if we do not receive enough essays that meet our guidelines.*

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Please complete the following application and submit with your essay.

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **ZIP Code:** _____ **Phone #:** _____

School: _____ **Grade:** _____

Mentor Name, if Applicable: _____

Country of Birth: _____

Primary Language Spoken at Home: _____

To be signed by parent, guardian, or mentor:

I confirm that this essay is an original writing by _____
(name of student)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____