

## First Freedom Student Competition National Essay and Video Contest

First Freedom Student Competition is now underway. This **national essay and video contest** offers **9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students** an opportunity to compete for **\$2,500 awards** as they examine the First Amendment and history and implementation of freedom of religion and conscience in American democracy and the world today. Students then present their evaluation in written essay or video format.

This school year, students will select a religion from their local community, state or region that was or is a minority group. They will research and analyze its history as it encounters issues of religious freedom and equality, and then, by written essay or video production, present their evaluation of how this group's local history compares to the broader narrative of U.S. history and First Amendment law. For the complete topic, essay and video guidelines, registration, classroom poster, student flyer and other details, visit [www.firstfreedom.org](http://www.firstfreedom.org), and then click on the First Freedom Student Competition button.

Student online **registration** is required on or before **Monday, November 17, 2014**, and the **postmark deadline** for students to mail their essays or videos with the accompanying entry materials is **Monday, November 24, 2014**. **Winners** will be **announced** on Thomas Jefferson's birthday, **April 13, 2015**.