



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Providing Civic Hope and Action, the Civvys Awards Announce 2019 Finalists**

If you're looking for the people who are making America work, who are answering the call to serve their nation and their neighbors through collaborative, creative efforts that inspire, unite and facilitate civic participation, look no further than the American Civic Collaboration Awards ("Civvys") nominees. Today, the Civvys Awards announced their class of 2019 finalists and honorable mentions, exemplar cases that demonstrate the way forward to others around the country.

Developed by the Bridge Alliance Education Fund, Big Tent Nation, and the National Conference on Citizenship in 2017, the Civvys Awards are among the most impactful and visible aspects of the civic renewal movement. The award winners will be announced in a ceremony in October 2019 during the National Conference on Citizenship in Washington, D.C.

Nominations are evaluated by a distinguished review committee, comprised of thought leaders in government, civic engagement, philanthropy, and media including:

- Betsy Wright Hawkings, Democracy Fund
- Peter Levine, Tufts University
- John Richter, Bipartisan Policy Center
- Kayla Demonte, Citizen University
- Sterling Speirn, National Conference on Citizenship
- Lisa Matthews, National Conference on Citizenship
- Louise Dubé, iCivics (2018 National Winner)
- Nancy Rose, FirstVote NC (2018 Youth Winner)
- Martin Carcasson, CSU Center for Public Deliberation (2018 Local Winner)

The American Civic Collaboration Awards, or the Civvys, are the only national awards program dedicated to celebrating projects that emphasize working together across divides of all kinds – political, geographical, economic, cultural – to strengthen communities and empower citizens. By leveraging collaboration as a core strength, these initiatives put community and nation before party, ideology, and narrow interests, embodying a civic spirit that inspires other Americans to take action, and developing processes and tools that provide a model for best practices.

Please join us in congratulating the 2019 Civvys Finalists and Honorable Mentions. A full list is also available at [www.civvys.org](http://www.civvys.org).

## **2019 FINALISTS**

### **Local Category**

Common Good Atlanta  
Draw the Lines PA (David Thornburgh)  
Indiana Humanities, “INseparable initiative”  
The Village Square  
Veronica Crespín-Palmer, RISE Colorado  
Your Voice Ohio Media Collaborative

### **Youth Category**

Andrew Lardie, Bowdoin Votes  
Amy Farrell, GenerationNation  
The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life, Texas Civic Ambassador Program (Susan Nold, Melissa Huebsch, Taylor Foody, Bianca Solis)  
King Makers of Oakland, Project of the Office of African American Male Achievement (Chris Chatmon, Baayan Bakari and the team)  
MOVE Texas

### **National Category**

AllSides  
American Association of State College and Universities, American Democracy Project  
Civic Tech Field Guide (Matthew Stempeck)  
ioby "In Our Back Yard" (Erin Barnes)  
Participatory Budgeting (Shari Davis)  
RepresentUs (Josh Graham Lynn and Josh Silver)

## **2019 HONORABLE MENTIONS**

### **Local Category**

Allison Fisher, Globe Collection and Press at MICA  
Alternative Break 2019 (Tevin Monroe, Margaux Crider)  
April Nicklaus, NJPIRG Students

Asheville Poverty Initiative Collaboration (Dr. Lucy Lawrence of Warren Wilson College & Rev. Shannon Spencer of Asheville Poverty Initiative)  
Ashley Hanson, PlaceBase Productions and the Department of Public Transformation  
Barry Klein, Citizen lawmaking at the local level  
Citizen Advocacy Center (Theresa Amato, Esq. (Founder) and Myrrha Guzman, Esq.)  
Colette Pichon Battle, Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy  
Committee for a Better New Orleans, "The People's Budget"  
Common Cause New York, "RCV:NYC"  
Craig Freshley, Make Shift Coffee House  
Illinois Public Media's Democracy Series  
James Madison University and Virginia Commonwealth University, Debate Across the Curriculum  
Link Centre, Tupelo, MS, and the Tupelo Public School District, "The Story of Us: Increasing Access to AP Classes"  
Ms. Joan Johnson, Tarrant County College  
My Meadville  
PBS39 and United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, "Lehigh Valley Reads"  
University of Delaware Center for Political Communication, "National Agenda Series"  
University of Texas Permian Basin Honors Program (Christopher John Stanley, Dr. Robert Perry, Representative Brooks Landgraf)  
Zöe Williamson, Geaux Vote LSU

### **Youth Category**

Dr. Randell Trammell and the Georgia Center for Civic Engagement  
Engage Miami  
Madison Shea Lamanna & The Eagle Endowment  
Mariama Lockington and Olivia McCuskey, Inspire U.S.  
Mismatch (Clara Nevins and Kristen Hansen)  
Opportunity Youth United, "Expanding the Electorate: Improving Voter Access"  
The "Can We?" Project (Deborah Bicknell, Lydia Maier, Lowell Libby)

### **National Category**

Audrey Henson, College to Congress  
Ballotpedia's Sample Ballot Lookup Tool  
Civility (Palma Strand, Malka Kopell, Reba Hsu, Gina Baleria)  
David Domke and the Common Purpose Leadership Team, "Common Purpose Now"  
Dr. Lewena Bayer, Civility Experts Worldwide, Inc.  
Emgage, "Emgage in a Box"  
ENACT: The Educational Network (David Weinstein)  
Free Trip to Egypt #pledgetolisten campaign (Tarek Mounib)  
Future Hindsight (Mila Atmos)  
GovEx at Johns Hopkins University (Beth Blauer)  
Jamie Joyce, Great American Debate  
John Kerry, Condoleezza Rice & Common Ground Committee

Kettering Foundation "Initiatives for Democratic Practice" Program (Alice Diebel and Joni Doherty)

Leslie Danks Burke, Trailblazers PAC

Maria Yuan, Issue Voter

National Issues Forum Institute

Serena DiMaso, New Jersey Legislator

Sophie Beren, TableTalk

Student Governmental Affairs Program (SGAP)

The Flip Side (Annafi Wahed, Jihan Varisco)

The Maintainers (Jessica Meyerson, Andrew Russell, and Lee Vinsel)

The Pledge Podcast (Allison Hausman)

The Reflect Organization (Jared Fenton)

U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress, District Director Study Tour Program

For more information, or to schedule an interview, contact Caroline Klibanoff:

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