

MONMOUTH VICINAGE
LAW DAY 2020 –
“Your Vote, Your
Democracy: The 19th
Amendment at 100”

ART, ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST WINNERS

Art Poster Contest – Grades K-5

Winner Jeff Jiju – Fairview Elem. School,
Middletown School District –

ARTWORK ON NEXT SLIDE



Entry # 1



Jeff Jiju.
4th Grade
Fairview Elementary

Middle School Poetry Contest (Grades 6-8)



FIRST PLACE WINNER– “Our Voices”

Angelica Clemente, Long Branch Middle School (Long Branch School District)

No voice No power No body to this world.

We want a voice that can be heard .

That you hear at the bottom of this world.

Oh what am I to you? You have a voice, but I would love one too. “Freedom of Speech” where is my freedom of speech? Where did it go? A voice that the wind will carry. My voice that will scream loud, louder than a wolf howling in the wind. VOTE VOTE VOTE! Oh they tell you to vote, but what happens when you can't because you're a woman?

I walk down the street signs filled with truth oh we want rights too! “Vote for women” I hear and see, but no one actually sees. Oh we are crazy, oh we are just women, not that we are doing this to show them we have a say in this world. We won't be unheard, we won't be shut down.

Give us a chance we won't let you down. A Voice for all Women!...Oh the ray of sunshine, the warmth on my face. Is that... is that... is that true...

it's our voices being heard

SECOND PLACE WINNER– “Who We Are; Women”

2nd Place: Rayane Moura Oliveira, Long Branch Middle School (Long Branch School District)

Human rights are women's rights.

As we trace back to 1848,
It is evident that through the wraths,
Discrimination, spits and deaths
Through the suffer underneath the ocean's depths
We came together as one
To break through the cold prison doors
So that they may hear our wave's roars.
Proving once more,
We are not property.
But people.

The simple circle around “female”.
Prohibiting our liberty,
Freedom of speech and peace
Opinion and expression.
And the right to equal education.

But that did not forever stand.
Millicent Fawcett.
She.

She and others fought for my books and my graduation
gown.
For my bright future that was once held down.
She fought for my political rights
To have a voice for a change suffice.
To represent who I am.
Not because of my gender,
but my real identity.

They fought to reveal
My strength and my roar.
My insight and hard core

Like them, I am a woman.
Worthy, valuable and free.
Free to be who I am, free to be me.

THIRD PLACE
WINNER-
Alberto Perez,
Long Branch
Middle School
(Long Branch
School District)

Always living the hardest life
Underappreciated for the work they do
They were never much respected
Even recognized at all
Until the 19th amendment
One which women fought for 100 years

Now to wear their sticker proudly
Getting their voice heard
Putting the ballot into the locked box
Opening the blue curtain
Walking head high
Seeing the sign while walking out
Vote

Finally those before me who fought for me to be here
Susan B. Anthony
Didn't just fight for women's rights
She also fought for equality for all
Being one of the top leaders in the Equal Rights association
She led the group in women rights to vote.
To get the chance of walking head high
Through the parking lot
Through the store
With my sticker
To be able to say I vote

Middle School Essay Contest (Grades 6-8)

PROMPT: "What was the 19th century view of woman's role and how did it affect people's attitudes about women's suffrage?"



FIRST PLACE WINNER –
Kristen Tomazic, Dwight David Eisenhower
Middle School (Freehold Township School
District)

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Kristen Tomazic, Dwight David Eisenhower Middle School (Freehold Township School District)

As we celebrate the 19th Amendment's 100th birthday, may we take into account the perceived role of women in the twenty-century and how it affected the societal perceptions of her securing the legal right to vote. Women had been viewed as the weaker gender and once married, were seen to be the property of their husbands, expected to tend to the children, clean the house, and do the laundry. In contrast, men were considered to be head of the household, free to pursue any educational path of their choosing, and run for political office. One way they fought against this perception was in "*The Revolution*", a newspaper managed by suffragette Susan B. Anthony. Their motto was "Men, their rights, and nothing more; women their rights, and nothing less."

The women's suffrage era led to much opposition stemming from men questioning if such a movement might lead to the promotion of pacifism and thus promote unpreparedness in war time efforts. Distilleries feared women would vote for the prohibition of alcohol. In the workforce, industries employing children feared that women might vote to outlaw child labor.

FIRST PLACE ENTRY– Page 2

Over time, perceptions saw some deviations even with the U.S. President Woodrow Wilson, when he remarked, “We have made partners of the women in this war; shall we admit them only to a partnership of privilege and right?” At the onset of the twentieth century, a woman’s role in American society was rapidly changing along too with the perceived impact on business, labor, and politics.

SECOND PLACE WINNER– Lily Ariel Condron, Dwight David Eisenhower Middle School (Freehold Township School District);

The view of a women's role in the 19th century greatly impacted people's attitudes about women's suffrage as it illustrated a women's predominant household role as both a mother and nurturer. Many males viewed women as subservient and not deserving to be educated. Hence, males felt women lacked intelligence and thus should not hold any elevated position of business, politics, or religious importance either inside or outside of their community.

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution forever changed the rule of law for women living in America. This revision to our plan of government denoted and mandated that every citizen may not be denied the right to vote, no matter their gender. This was indeed an historic event as it enabled every qualified woman who was registered to vote with the legal and political authority to vote in federal, state and local elections.



SECOND PLACE ENTRY– Page 2

Furthermore, the social ramifications of the passage of the nineteenth amendment must too be taken into consideration as they enabled women to attend colleges and train to be prepared to enter the workforce in such typically speaking male dominated careers in law, medicine, and pastoral care. Such freedom would later enable women to have the right to own their own property and become less dependent upon their male counterparts.

Women's suffrage had a profound impact on the future of women's rights both in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries that began politically and would soon be extended into both the social and economic realms of society.

THIRD PLACE ENTRY– Addison Gunnell, Spring Lake Heights School (Spring Lake Heights School District).

Female, and male. The labels for two different genders. In the 19th century they were not only genders but also personalities.

Women now have the right to vote. It didn't start like this or even come about one year. The 19th amendment took not only years but decades of persuasion. Women fought for all they wanted, they wanted their rights. Their life was much different than ours and you can see.

Small town small house small family. That defines my life. I am a female in the 19th century. I do the cleaning. I do the cooking. I take care of the kids. And for all that I don't get to vote. Crazy isn't it. I get to work while my husband gets to socialize and do everything I want to do. Having an input in a decision can give women confidence and help make their lives better. The importance of input is extraordinary. Women don't have this extraordinary feeling. That is why every so often I meet with other women and some men to stop this nonsense. Get what I need!



THIRD PLACE ENTRY– Page 2

After being put in the same shoes as a woman in the 19th century doesn't it feel a little different. Notice how they did lots of work just to figure they don't get an input in big decisions. The women of the 19th century, and before found that out more than decades ago. They put their heads together to figure out a better life for future generations.

High School Poetry Contest (Grades 9-12)

FIRST PLACE WINNER –
Kayla Freibott, Middletown High School – South
(Middletown School District)



FIRST PLACE WINNER –

Kayla Freibott, Middletown High School – South (Middletown School District)

“Silenced”

They were told to wait
They were told no
“Why should I wait?” She asked
“Why should my opinion be ignored?”

A fire inside of the women began to burn
A fire that was burning for centuries before
Too long their voices were silenced
Too long their words were dismissed

To ensure the right to vote
is to ensure democracy
To ensure democracy
is to not only preach, but practice equality

The suffrage movement was not only a
movement to fight for the right to vote,
but a movement to pave the way for future
generations of women
It was to protect their opinions and give them a
voice they were so long deprived of
And it was to change the direction of the
country into a path of liberty and freedom

They were told to wait
They were told no
“But I shouldn't wait” she said
“My opinion should be heard”

SECOND PLACE WINNER - Sepheriah Cox, Asbury Park High School
(Asbury Park School District)

After many years of being oppressed
We Finally did it
There's no more stress
Although there's little annotations
If I'm being honest we should be divided like the spots on a dalmatian
You get it... because dalmatian spots are connected
The color separation shouldn't affect the simile
Since we were all built equally
That means men and women should have equal rights
No matter the part
No matter the cost
No matter the pride that you will claim to have lost



THIRD PLACE WINNER - Ninel Nunez-Garcia, Asbury Park High School
(Asbury Park School District)

To Susan B. Anthony
No women worked harder than you
It was a tough fight
But you were brave and strong
It was a long fight
You got yourself arrested, to prove women should vote
Many women just wanted more
They wanted their right to vote
Thank you
For making our voices heard
You proved to the people what women are worth
Thanks to you we got what we always deserved
But the work you did we will never forget
Thank you
Susan B. Anthony



High School Essay Contest (Grades 9-12)

FIRST PLACE WINNER - Dayana Garza, Asbury Park
High School (Asbury Park School District)



FIRST PLACE WINNER - Dayana Garza, Asbury Park High School
(Asbury Park School District);

Historically, women have been treated unfairly compared to men, when topics such as social, political, and equality were brought to light. After many years of constant fighting and stubbornness, driven by hope for a society where women are now seen as equal. As we mark the 100th Anniversary, we pay tribute to two pioneers in the woman suffragists. Josephine Ruffin, an African American, was a leading member who founded National Association of Colored Women. The other, Susan B. Anthony was one of the organizers of the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 which brought the Woman Suffrage to national attention. So, as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote, we honor their legacy with our great thank you for the progress we have made thus far. The 19th Amendment was initially passed by Congress June 4, 1919, and eventually ratified on August 18, 1920. It was a huge turning point for American women.

As a woman in today's society, we are beginning to see many accomplishments of women being recognized and respected as initiated by Josephine Ruffin and Susan B. Anthony. Today, I cannot be prouder as we see the emergent of more and more women participating in our national politics to bring about positive social change. Women are being elected into political offices ranging from governors, senators, judges, and mayors in many states and cities across the country. We have taken steps to insure that not only we are respected in our careers, jobs, and homes. Most importantly, that women are capable of performing and surpassing the antiquated mindset that women have been held for so long as a second-class citizen. There is no going back, and the tide is rising.

FIRST PLACE WINNER - Page 2

When it came to helping our society grow economically and socially, woman brought unity to the country and the prospect of equality of a voice to all. For instance, Michelle Obama our African American first lady, united and brought education to children as a priority and had insured programs such as nonprofit organizations, like the Obama foundation, Obama's Reach Higher initiative for post-secondary education, and education for African- American girls.

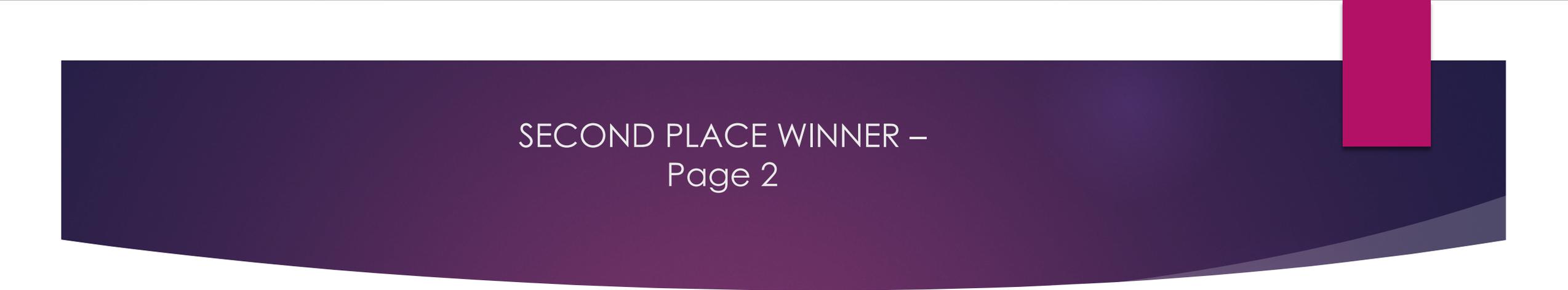
Overall, we have evolved and grown together in a way were we see ourselves clearer than ever before. We women are capable of anything whether it be out of our reach, gender shouldn't matter for a job, career, or educational path. We have achieved our equality, but it may not be one hundred percent. I am sure we will make positive changes along the way.

SECOND PLACE WINNER - Nadia Ruiz, Asbury Park High School (Asbury Park School District)

Law Day is an important day to remember as a woman as we suffered for our rights to vote.

In 1848 there was a movement that was called "The Woman Suffrage Movement" when a women rights convention was held in Seneca Falls in New York. The meeting was the first in support of women's right but the suffragist later viewed it as the meeting that launched the suffrage movement. For the next 50 years, women suffrage supporters worked to educate the public about the women suffrage with the leadership of Susan B. Anthony. Many politicians were unwilling to listen to a disenfranchised group. Thus over time women began to realize that in order to achieve reform that they needed to win the right to vote. Therefore the women's suffrage movement became a mass movement. The National Woman's Party under the leadership of Alice Paul undertook radical action including picketing the White house in order to convince Wilson and Congress to pass the women suffrage.





SECOND PLACE WINNER – Page 2

In 1920 due to the combined efforts of the NAWSA (National American Woman Suffrage Association) and NWP (National Women's Party) the 19th Amendment enfranchising women was finally ratified. This victory is considered the most significant achievement of women in the Progressive Era. This was the largest extension of democratic voting rights in our nation's history and it was achieved peacefully through democratic processes.

THIRD PLACE WINNER—
Vah'Kyla Esdaile, Asbury
Park High School (Asbury
Park School District)



This year, 2020, marks the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. Women takes this day to celebrate the 19th Amendment's impact on their progress, and perhaps most importantly their reproductive health and rights. On August 26, 1920, more than 26 million women had their citizenship affirmed and gained means to empower themselves, their families, and their communities.

THIRD PLACE WINNER - Page 2

The 19th Amendment played a pivotal role in promoting reproductive rights for women. Women also experienced economic progress, with the increased availability of family-planning services and supplies allowing more women to enroll in higher education and enter professional occupations. Although the 19th Amendment enfranchised all women, to ensure the Amendment included women regardless of race, African American women worked tirelessly to connect suffrage to both gender and race in all regions of the country. African American suffragists believed voting was a tool to protect the African American individual's citizenship. The 19th Amendment ultimately granted suffrage to the majority of African American women, but African American women fought harder for the vote, and as well as economic opportunities. On the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, we honor these pioneer women that make it possible for the Voting Rights Act to be enacted in 1965. Prior to winning suffrage, state laws prohibited women from owning and inheriting property, signing contracts, serving on juries, and voting in elections. We have come a long way from there, and to here now. We are grateful for their astonishing accomplishments.

THIRD PLACE WINNER - Page 3

The first Woman Suffrage Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, brought the Woman Suffrage platform to national limelight. The first women's rights agenda was valuing women as full citizens of our society. The 19th Amendment helped millions of women move closer to equality in many aspects of American life. Women advocated for job opportunities, fairer wages, education, sex education, and birth control. After women were enfranchised, candidates catered to women in an effort to get elected. Women voted and eventually ran for office to improve not only government but also their individual lives.

In conclusion, today's anniversary of the 19th Amendment is particularly important because it also coincided with celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. The 2012 elections saw women redefine the power of vote by standing up against voting suppression. This election was a mindful reminder to still keep our eyes on the prize.