

# Pinal County Juvenile Court and Community Advisory Board (CAB)

Invite you to participate in the

## 2021 CHARACTER COUNTS! ESSAY CONTEST

### Contest Guidelines:

1. This contest is open to all Pinal County students in grades K-12. Students in public, private, charter or home-school may participate. *(For grades K-2, children may have help in writing portion only)*
2. The prompt this year is: **How have you shown good character this year?** Students should be familiar with the *Six Pillars of Character* but do not have to use them individually in their essay.
3. **ONLY 1 ENTRY FORM PER STUDENT.** Each student should write on the page provided. Those typing their entry should attach page to the entry form.
  - We recommend teachers fill in their information BEFORE making copies of this form, then have student complete their name and age. This will save you time!
  - No artwork or colored paper please.
  - Highly suggested to use black or blue ink pens. **If in pencil it must be dark enough to copy.**
  - *Due to large volume of entries, if directions are not followed, entry will be disqualified.*
  - Give personal examples in your essay to help judges understand what you feel.
3. There will be **4 entry divisions**. Please be sure to mark your division on **EACH** entry:

<b>Division 1:</b>	<b><u>K-2</u> grades (150-word limit)</b>	<b>Division 3:</b>	<b><u>6-8</u> grades (200-word limit)</b>
<b>Division 2:</b>	<b><u>3-5</u> grades (150-word limit)</b>	<b>Division 4:</b>	<b><u>9-12</u> grades (200-word limit)</b>

*\*Tip\* Teachers can print their information on the entry form before copying so all that will be needed is for student to write their own name.*

### Winning Entries:

- There will be 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place & Honorable Mention prizes given in each category. Winners will receive their award during a special ceremony in May at the Pinal County Courthouse in Florence, AZ.
- First place essays will be sent to local media for possible publication.
- **ALL** students who submit an essay will receive a Certificate of Participation.

## ENTRIES DUE BY Monday, March 15, 2021

**NEW THIS YEAR: There are two ways to submit:**

1. **MAIL:**  
Pinal County Juvenile Court  
CAB Character Counts Essay Contest  
P.O. Box 1009  
Florence, Arizona 85132
2. **EMAIL:**  
pinalcab@gmail.com

### Contacts:

Donna McBride at 520-866-4405 or DMcBride@courts.az.gov  
Amanda Lairmore at 520-866-4404 or ALairmore@courts.az.gov

# The Six Pillars of Character! <sup>R</sup>

## *Trustworthiness*

Be honest. Don't deceive, cheat or steal. Be reliable & do what you say you'll do. Have the courage to do the right thing. Build a good reputation. Be loyal & stand by your family, friends and country.

## *Respect*

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule. Be tolerant of differences. Use good manners, not bad language. Be considerate of the feelings of others. Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone. Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

## *Responsibility*

Do what you are supposed to do. Persevere: keep on trying! Always do your best. Use self-control. Be self-disciplined. Think before you act & consider the consequences. Be accountable for your choices.

## *Fairness*

Play by the rules. Take turns and share. Be open-minded; listen to others. Don't take advantage of others. Don't blame others carelessly.

## *Caring*

Be kind, compassionate and show you care. Express gratitude. Forgive others. Help people in need.

## *Citizenship*

Do your share to make your school and community better. Cooperate & get involved in community affairs. Stay informed; vote. Be a good neighbor. Obey laws and rules. Respect authority. Protect the environment.

**Want to read more? Go to: [www.charactercounts.org](http://www.charactercounts.org)**  
**CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics**

**\*\*TEACHERS/PARENTS\*\***

*If you are submitting multiple entries, please fill out this form and attach one copy as a cover sheet for your entries! Only one cover sheet needed for each division.*

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher School: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING** Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School City: \_\_\_\_\_ AZ. ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Entries Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle *Appropriate Entry:*

**GRADES K-2 (DIV. 1)**

**GRADES 3-5 (DIV.2)**

**GRADES 6-8 (DIV. 3)**

**GRADES 9-12 (DIV.4)**

***COPY AND USE THIS PAGE FOR EACH STUDENT -- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY***

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**How have you shown good character this year?**