

**RESOLUTION 2021-015**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALISTOGA, COUNTY OF NAPA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES AND A BUDGET ADJUSTMENT OF \$2,300**

**WHEREAS**, On January 19, 2021, the City Council approved the concept of an essay contest to encourage civic engagement in local government advancing the City Council Goals to promote and enhance communication and transparency; and

**WHEREAS**, a subcommittee comprised of Councilmembers Williams and Gift was assigned to develop recommended guidelines and a judging panel for Council consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the subcommittee has met and recommends a five-member judging panel consisting of Councilmembers Gift and Williams and three members of the public, essay guidelines and prize awards as reflected in Attachment 1; and

**WHEREAS**, anonymous donors have pledged \$1,700 to augment the prize award amounts.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALISTOGA DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. The formation of a five-member judging panel, essay contest guidelines, and prize awards as reflected in the recitals and Attachment 1.
2. The acceptance of \$1,700 in donations from various anonymous donors for essay contest prize awards.
3. A budget adjustment creating a new project – Government Essay Contest - under Community Enrichment Grants, account 01-4107-4566 with \$2,300 in appropriations derived from the \$1,700 donations account 01-3289 and \$600 transferred from the unreserved general fund balance.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Calistoga at a regular meeting held this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of **March 2021**.

I, Marni Rittburg, City Clerk of the City of Calistoga, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Calistoga at a regular meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of **March 2021**, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Councilmembers Gift, Kraus, and Williams, Vice Mayor Lopez-Ortega and Mayor Canning  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**ATTEST:**

  
Marni Rittburg, CMC, City Clerk

**APPROVED:**

  
Chris Canning, Mayor

## Announcing the City of Calistoga's

# Government Essay Contest

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To encourage civic engagement in local government, the Calistoga City Council is sponsoring an essay contest including prizes, for persons 18 years and younger, who reside within the Calistoga Unified School District boundary.

**Purpose:** The City Council wishes to:

- 1) encourage local participation in government;
- 2) formally recognize skillful written communication;
- 3) foster thoughtful consideration of the role of formal government.

**Process:** Contestants will submit an essay of 500 - 750 words addressing this topic:

### How Can Government Foster Unity in a Diverse Community?

(i.e., "How Can I Help the Calistoga City Council Improve on Diversity and Inclusion Efforts for All Members of the Community?")

The essays should be double-spaced typed. A separate cover page should be submitted with the author's name, address, and birthdate (contestants must have been born after May 18, 2003). The essays should be delivered to the City Clerk at 1232 Washington Street, Calistoga, CA 94515, or [mrirtburg@ci.calistoga.ca.us](mailto:mrirtburg@ci.calistoga.ca.us).

**Judging Criteria:** All entries will be reviewed by a panel of five judges. The winning essays will offer a main thesis effectively supported by ideas and examples. They will be well organized, free from errors in grammar, usage, and the conventions of written English.

**Dates:** The essays must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on April 16, 2021. The winners will be announced at the City Council meeting on May 18, 2021.

**Prizes:** The City Council will award five prizes:

1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$800

2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$600

3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$400

Honorable Mention: \$250

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