

NEWS



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN FRITCHEY

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Local Students Honored in Annual Writing Contest *Winning Essays Looked at Role of Government*

Chicago – Home from a legislative session focused on ethics legislation, ongoing budget talks, and discussions of a capital bill, Representative John Fritchey (D-Chicago) recently turned to some of his younger constituents for their views on government during his 13th Annual John Fritchey Youth Foundation essay contest. The annual scholarship contest asks eighth-grade students to write an essay on the topic, “What Government Means to Me.” Participation in this essay contest has continued to grow every year since its inception in 1997.

“I look forward to reading these essays every year, and this year was no exception. The past year has been a historical year in government, and it was fascinating to see how it affected the youth in the community,” stated Rep. Fritchey. “It was great to hear these young adults express their opinions about our democratic society.”

Monetary scholarship awards are given to the students who authored the top three essays. This year’s essays were submitted by students from elementary schools throughout the district. All contest participants were presented with certificates for their participation.

This year, the first-place essay was written by Faviola Loza, a graduating eighth-grader from Burley Elementary School. Second-place was awarded to Jessica Camarillo of Alphonsus Academy, and third-place to Amer Ajvaz from Alcott Elementary School.

“I am really happy with the students’ efforts in this year’s contest, and I am proud to be able to sponsor a contest that allows these young adults to explore and express their own ideas,” Fritchey said. “By engaging these students in a dialogue about government, it is my hope that it encourages them to continue their civic participation as they get older.”

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