

# Student Editorial Writing and Cartoon Contest Now Open

The deadline for middle and high school students is Dec. 4

Two sixth-graders from T.J. Walker Middle School in Sturgeon Bay were among 16 students last year who received cash awards, certificates and publication by newspapers across the state - including the *Peninsula Pulse* - for their submissions to the Wisconsin Civics Games Editorial Writing and Cartoon Contest.

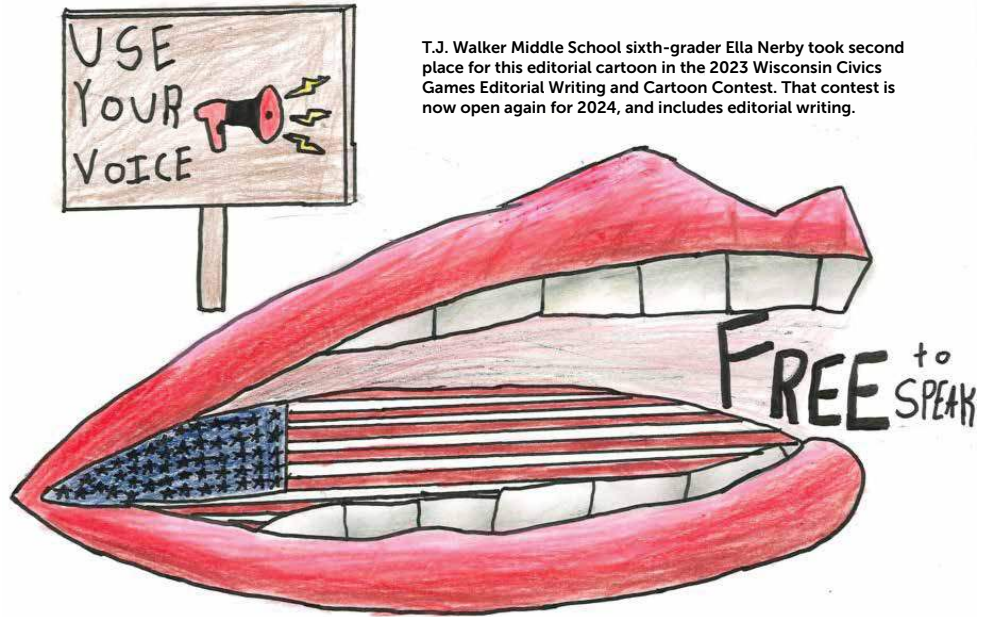
They were the first Door County students to win in the Wisconsin Newspaper Association (WNA) Foundation's annual editorial writing and cartoon contest, now in its fourth year. That contest for 2024 is now open for submissions from all Wisconsin middle and high school students, including homeschooled students.

Essays and cartoons should focus on the importance of the First Amendment. Students are encouraged to draw from personal experiences, current events and historical examples.

For the editorial writing contest, high school students will write a "guest column" (500 words or less) about the First Amendment. Middle school students will write a "letter to the editor" (200 words or less) on the same topic. Cartoon contest participants may submit one First Amendment-themed editorial cartoon.

The deadline for submissions is 11:59 pm on Dec. 4. Winners will be announced in early January.

First-place winners in each contest will receive \$500; second-place winners will receive \$250; third-place winners will receive \$100; and honorable mentions will receive \$50. Winning entries also will be published by newspapers across the state.



T.J. Walker Middle School sixth-grader Ella Nerby took second place for this editorial cartoon in the 2023 Wisconsin Civics Games Editorial Writing and Cartoon Contest. That contest is now open again for 2024, and includes editorial writing.

In last year's contest, sixth-grader Ella Nerby took second place for her editorial cartoon highlighting the importance of the First Amendment. At the same school, sixth-grader Steven Blevins received an honorable

mention for his letter to the editor in the writing contest, entitled, "First Amendment is the Most Important Amendment of All." Visit [wisconsincivicsgames.com](http://wisconsincivicsgames.com) for more info.