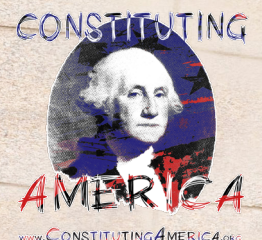


# CONSTITUTING AMERICA

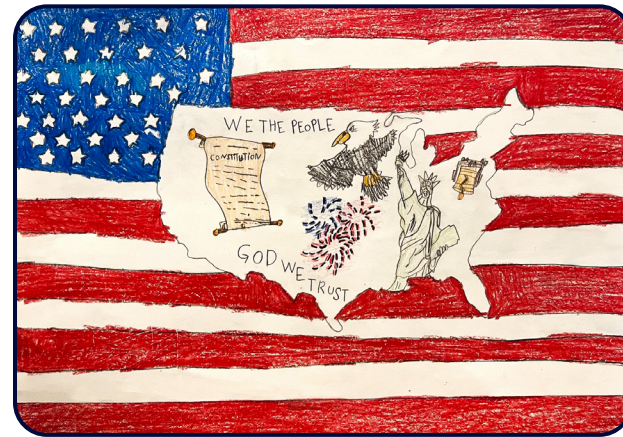


2022 ANNUAL REPORT





## A Special Thank You From Our We The Future Contest Winners



Conrad Ainslie Bauman Best Artwork Winner,  
Cailyn White, 9, TX



Conrad Ainslie Bauman Best Artwork Winner, Loren  
Griffin Crayton, 10, TX

We cannot say thank you enough!

Jacob L. Moss

Aubrey Jackman

Nathan Capeland

Ella Dumas

Wyatt Ramsey

Colt Jaxon

Giovanni Adu-Gyamfi

Adam Zheng

Levi's

Halley C Moore

Corbin Jones

Noe Jose Flores

Melanie McElroy

Maya Robinson

Fujah

Jake

Margaret Aline

Alexandra Gusinski

Zul Hossain

Shaylin Smith

Coralyn Cairns

Nicholas Heiniger

Jimmy

Lindsey Leukin

Magda Smith

Simran Gupta

Yashica Nabar

Nikita Singh

Lily

Emmalisa Korbacher



Chibuzor Omeahialam

Rachel Ku

Casey Chapter



# CONTENTS

01 ★ **OUR IMPACT**  
*See what Constituting America has achieved since our founding in 2010.*

07 ★ **CONSTITUTIONAL CHATS LIVE PODCASTS**  
*We host conversations with constitutional experts about hot topics and history.*

12 ★ **WASHINGTON D.C. MENTOR TRIP**  
*We give our contest winners an all expense paid trip to learn from mentors in a major city.*

17 ★ **WINNER INVOLVEMENT**  
*See how our contest winners stay involved even years after winning our contest.*

21 ★ **TURNER MAURICE GAUNTT, JR. AWARD**  
*In honor of our founder Janine Turner's father we award a \$4,540 scholarship yearly.*

03 ★ **GEORGE WASHINGTON SPEAKING INITIATIVE**  
*We reach students face to face on a weekly basis in classrooms across the nation.*

09 ★ **WE THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST**  
*We offer thousands of dollars in scholarships every year for students K-Graduate School.*

15 ★ **IMPACTING THE CULTURE**  
*We promote our winners' works throughout the national media and social media.*

19 ★ **CONSTITUTION DAY PROGRAM**  
*We host all-day workshops to celebrate Constitution Day on September 17th every year.*

23 ★ **ANNUAL 90-DAY STUDY**  
*Every year we invite our followers to study for 90 days as we release daily essays by constitutional scholars.*



Our We The Future PSA and Short Film winners in front of Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. during their 2022 Winner Mentor Trip.

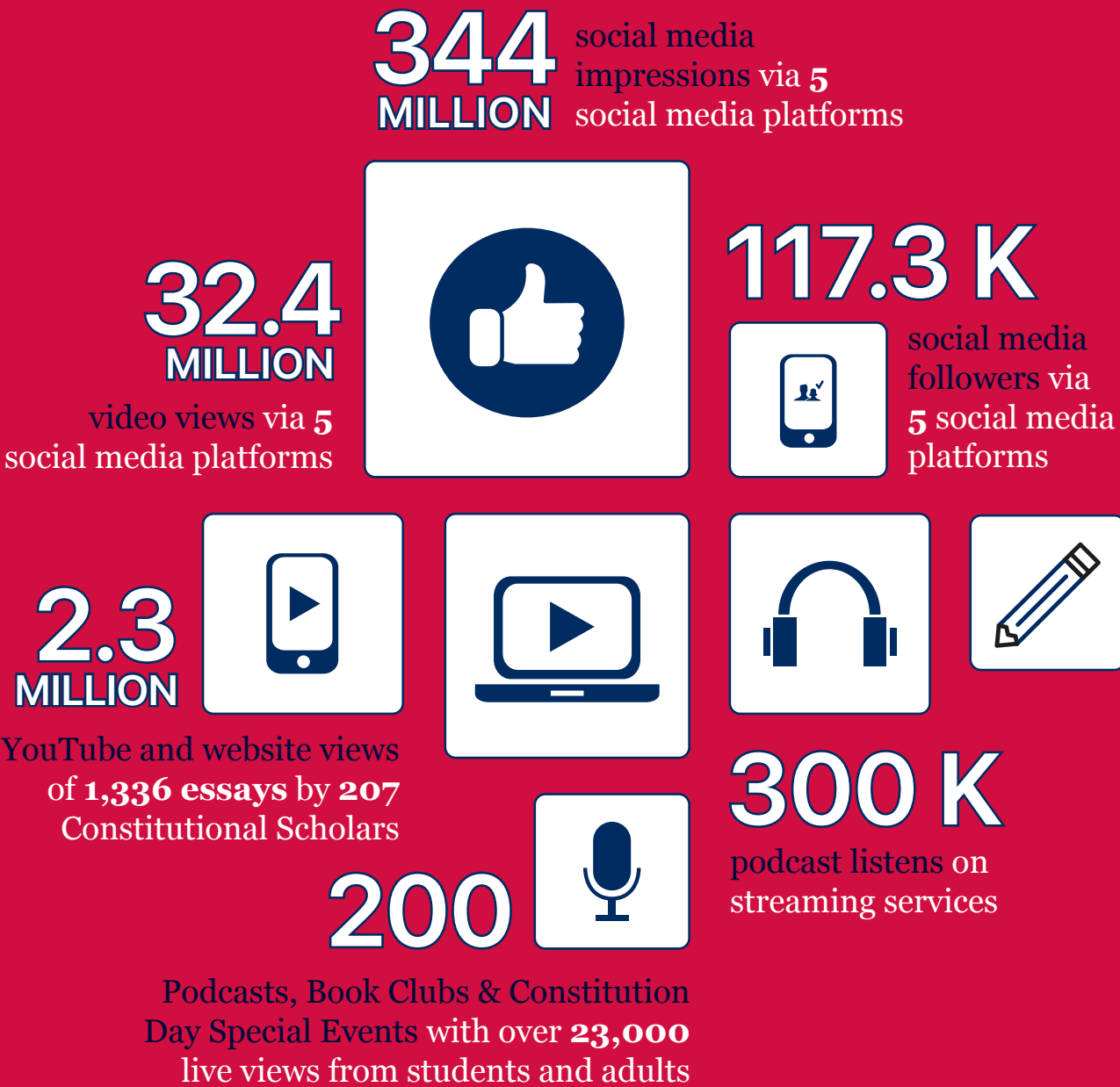
25 ★ **FINANCIAL REPORT**  
*We responsibly budget to stay in line with our fundraising goals.*

29 ★ **BOARD & STAFF**  
*Meet the Constituting America board and staff members.*

27 ★ **HOW TO DONATE**  
*See the difference you can make by donating to Constituting America.*

31 ★ **LOOKING FORWARD**  
*See our plan to expand our Constitutional Education efforts over the next 3 years.*

# 2010- 2023 IMPACT





# GEORGE WASHINGTON SPEAKING INITIATIVE



In a huge leap forward we grew our speaking initiative by 77% this past academic year (Fall 2022-Spring 2023).

Constituting America delivered a **record-setting 392 speeches in over 100 schools in 10 states, engaging and informing 13,257 students.**

Constituting America is the only Constitution Education organization in public, private/parochial, and home school classrooms almost daily. Over half of our school presentations are given in Title I schools. We seek to educate, inspire, and engage our audiences with our two speech options “**The Relevancy of the Constitution**” and “**How To Have A Civil Civic Conversation**” which are available **in person or through video conference.** In 2022 alone, we made **156** remote, live, on-demand, and pre-scheduled presentations to over **5,820** students, teachers, and adults across **40** schools in eight states.

## The Constitution

Many schools teach their students how the government works, but not about how they can get involved, or how the government is accountable to “we the people.” In the “Relevancy of the Constitution” speech, Constituting America teaches students foundational Constitutional principles and how to use their First Amendment rights to find and contact their representatives and write a petition to address issues about which they are passionate. To measure our impact, we offer students a pre and post-test about the Constitution. **On average our Constitution presentation**

**raises students’ scores from a D to an A,** with students who participate in our program progressing from answering six out of ten questions correctly on the pretest to answering nine out of ten correctly on the post test.

Before our presentations, only 47% of students could correctly identify the Constitution as “the supreme law of the land for everyone.” (23% thought it was a document that could be interpreted in any way to further a political agenda!) After our presentations, 89% of students could identify the Constitution correctly. **Less than half of students could correctly identify our form of government as a republic before our presentations; but 95% could after.** On the pretest, fewer than half of students knew the name for the process of changing something about the Constitution; after our presentations, nearly 90% of students defined “amending the Constitution” correctly!

## Civil Civic Conversations

Constituting America’s speech on “How To Have a Civil Civic Conversation” provides students with the resources to synthesize information from our nation’s deeply divided and biased news sources, glean pertinent and factual information, and discuss complicated

“I highly recommend Constituting America’s programs and am grateful that they visited our school.”

–Marisol Gomez, Principal at Mater Beach Academy, FL



OK



FL



VA

Above: Oklahoma Students. Right Top to Bottom: Florida Students; Constituting America CEO, Cathy Gillespie & Operations Director, Jeanette Kraynak in Virginia; Idaho Students; Colorado Students



ID

and divisive issues with their peers and fellow citizens productively and civilly. Through our Civil Civic process, students discover how to be an active part of the political future of our country, exercising their First Amendment rights, protected by the U.S. Constitution.

**After our presentations, 91% of students said they were more open to learning about and listening to a viewpoint that differs from their own.** 89% said they felt better prepared to discuss controversial issues with friends. Over half of the students said that they plan to change the way they consume news stories.



CO



After our presentation, a 4th Grade teacher from Castle Rock, Colorado said, **“Constituting America made the Constitution and our subsequent rights ‘real’ for my students.** The examples provided by our facilitator illustrated these principles in a manner meaningful to the world of a 4th grader. My students went home excited to ‘teach’ their parents.”

“I am thankful for your program and have enjoyed the discussions that have taken place in my classroom over the years. **Thank you for the commitment you are making to my students and students around the country!**” *—Aaron Toler, Teacher at Bethany Middle School, OK*



*Above: Constituting America Board Member, Brandon Vanderford and Founder, Actress Janine Turner with Oklahoma Students. Left Top to Bottom: New York Students, Utah Students, Texas Students*

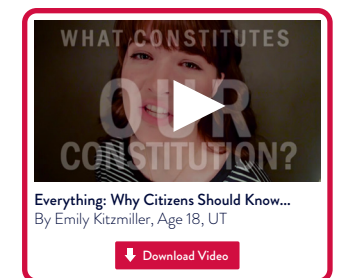


–Mrs. Katelyn Burnett, Lone Wolf Public School, OK

**Free Downloadable Resources for Teachers - Inspired  
by Students - Exciting Artistic Videos Made by  
Contest Winners and Scholars!**

In late 2021, due to the high demand from teachers to share our video resources, Constituting America launched the free “Clips for Classrooms” web page! This web page is a collection of over a dozen of our very best video clips created by students and scholars curated in one place for teachers to download free at any time for use in the classroom.

The Clips for Classrooms webpage also includes **selections from our popular Constitutional Chats Podcast Series** including Countdown to Bill of Rights Day; Countdown to Constitution Day; The Federalist Papers; Little Known Signers of the Declaration of Independence; The American Economy 101; and The Amendment Series.





# CONSTITUTIONAL CHATS LIVE PODCASTS

Constituting America has hosted Constitutional Chats Live Podcasts ever since the COVID-19 school closures in March 2020. Our **weekly podcast** covers a variety of topics, including our Founding Documents and their historical and modern applications and meanings, as well as current hot topics and debates playing out in our government and the media. Each episode features our student panel asking questions and learning from our guest Constitutional expert. Our previous guests have included professors, lawyers, journalists, members of Congress, and more!

**"The concept of youth and adults learning together through Constituting America is phenomenal. We need more of this type of learning in the United States."**

—Regan Grandy, Ed.D., Podcast Attendee, UT

To date, we have held over **163 Constitutional Chats Live Podcasts, Book Club Meetings, and Constitution Day Programs** reaching over **23,434 student and adult attendees**, with over 300,000 more reached through podcast replays on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, and other popular podcast platforms.



Episode 122: Our Special Flag Day Episode with "Betsy Ross" Herself

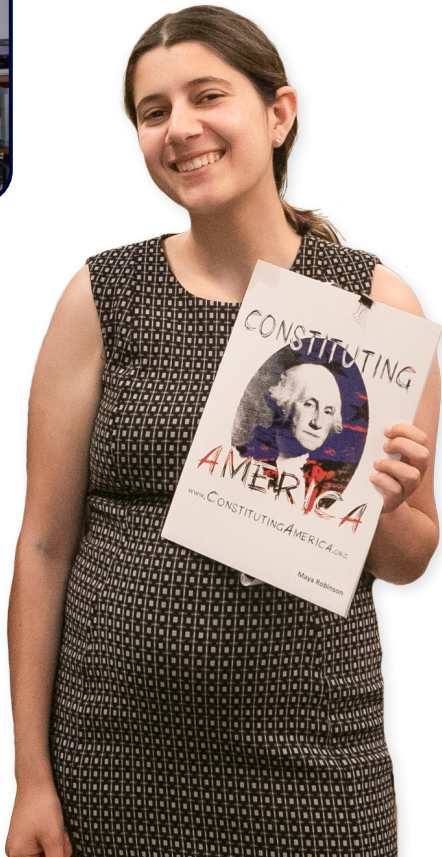


Episode 106: Financial Socialism's Instability with Daniel Di Martino



Episode 131: Guaranteeing a Republic with Hillsdale Professor William Morrisey (ret.)

Winner Maya Robinson,  
The Stan Agee Best High  
School STEM Award,  
Massachusetts



**"This is the type of learning that all Americans should be exposed to, enabling them to make wise decisions on whom they vote for and how they hold their local and national representatives accountable."**

—Rick Maybury, Podcast Attendee, MA

## Meet the 2022 Podcast Team:



**"It is refreshing to hear young, wise people seeking to understand our nation's founding and desiring to take their understanding to their generation who has largely lost a true sense of our nation's amazing history."** —Podcast Attendee, CA

## 2022 Series:





# WE THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

“This contest sparked my interest in how our government has been able to keep our core principles strong. As someone who has grown up learning about American history, it was exciting to look back and make connections to modern day stories with lessons and fundamental ideas that have been embedded in our country’s history for so long.”

—Amelia, Contest Entrant, IN

★ Our We the Future Contest provides **creative outlets for students of all ages**, elementary school through college, to use their passion – whether it is creating **songs, short films, public service announcements (PSA), essays, STEM projects, speeches, artwork, or poems** – to express themselves about the U.S. Constitution. Our contest prompts push students to think about the Constitution as it relates to their own individual lives, and how the protections and framework set forth by the Constitution are a vital part of every American’s day-to-day life. Creating contest entries provides students with **engaging “at-home” learning opportunities**.

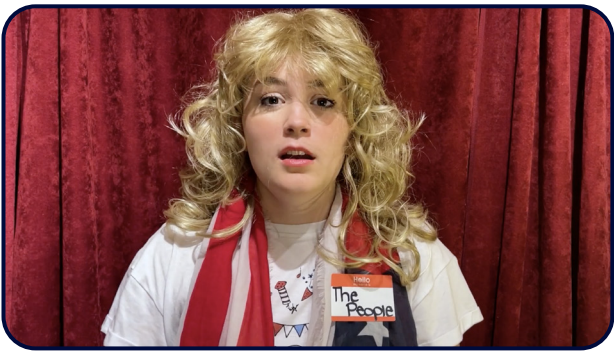
Along with winning a scholarship, our winners’ works are promoted and given national exposure. **Winners also receive an all-expenses-paid Mentor Trip to a major city.** In addition to the student categories, we annually award the Best Constitution Lesson Plan to a teacher. Getting teachers involved in providing improved civic learning to our country’s youth is a critical piece of Constituting America’s mission.

In a post-contest survey, **94% of students** who entered our We the Future contest said they learned something new about the United States Constitution they had not learned in school by entering. One student who entered our contest said, “**I learned how much power my voice holds and how the Constitution is made for me.**” Another entrant named Carson said, “The Constituting America ‘We the Future Contest’ has helped me not only to read and comprehend the text of the U.S. Constitution but also to understand how it interacts with the American populace.”

Winners Jake and Coralyn Cairns,  
Best High School Song, Georgia



We have received entries from students in all **50 states** and have awarded more than **\$259,860 in scholarship funding** for the national We the Future contest winners.



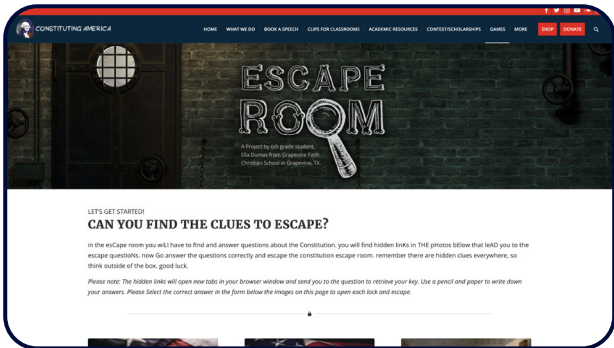
**PSA:** Lily Cring, Best High School PSA, Florida



**Artwork:** Addie Nester, Conrad Ainslie Bauman  
Best Artwork Winner, Texas



**Song:** Coralyn and Jake Cairns, Best High School Song, Georgia



**STEM:** Ella Dumas, Best Middle School STEM (Escape Room), Texas



**Essay:** Rachel Xu, Best High School Essay, Florida



**Short Film:** Louis Akkermans & Casey Chapter,  
Best College Short Film, Florida



# ★ ACADEMIC CONTEST WINNERS ★



**Addie Nester**  
TX, Artwork



**Benjamin Moak**  
CO, Poem



**Trijal Tagadur**  
GA, Essay



**Emily Tan**  
GA, STEM



**Ava Watts**  
TX, PSA



**Ella Dumas**  
TX, STEM



**Noe Flores**  
TX, STEM



**Coralyn Cairns**  
GA, Song



**Jake Cairns**  
GA, Song



**Colt Jaxon**  
FL, Song



**Rachel Xu**  
FL, Essay



**Dawson Rhoades**  
TX, Song



**Maya Robinson**  
MA, STEM



**Adam Zheng**  
NY, PSA



**Lily Cring**  
FL, PSA



**Shaynlin Smith**  
MO, Short Film



**Carson Collins**  
TX, Essay



**Margaret Alvine**  
CA, Speech



**Giovanni Adu-Gyamfi**, NJ, PSA



**Louis Akkermans**  
FL, Short Film



**Casey Chapter**  
FL, Short Film



**Nicholas Heiniger**  
GA, STEM



**Monique Gorman**  
TX, Lesson Plan



**Heather Laudén**  
TX, Lesson Plan

# WASHINGTON D.C. MENTOR TRIP

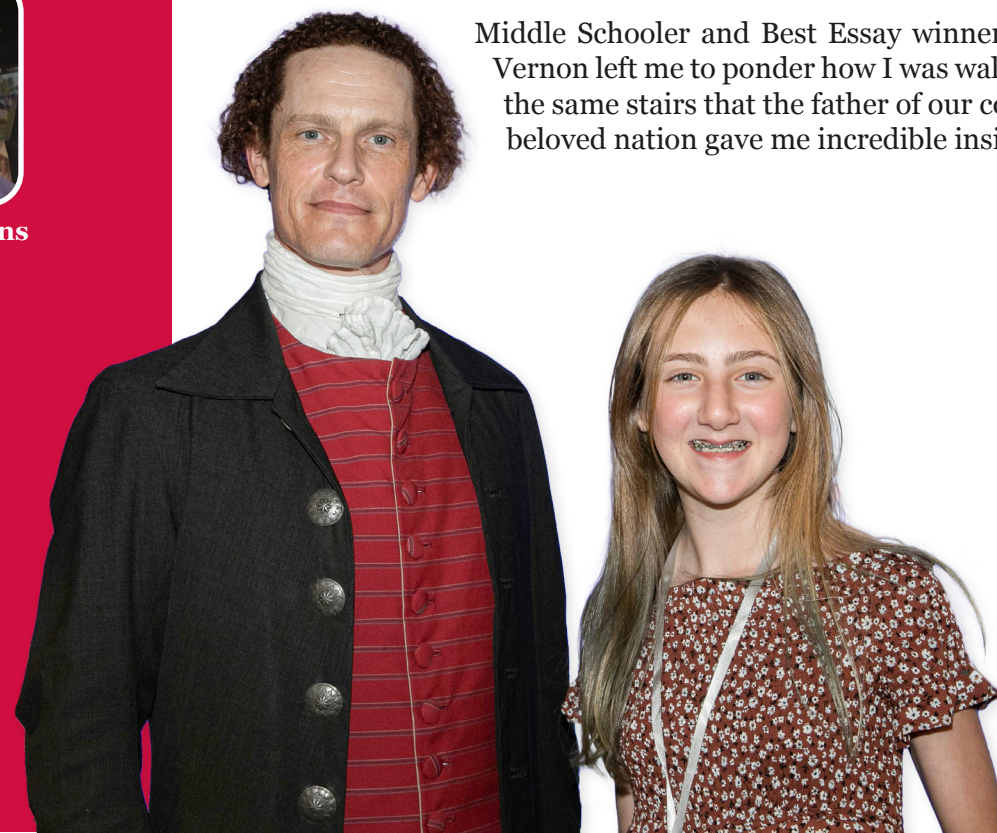
In June 2022 we hosted our biggest ever mentor trip in Washington D.C.! We invited the past 3 years of our scholarship contest winners to explore the nation's capital with us to learn more about our country's founding documents and receive personal mentorship experiences from experts in fields corresponding to our contest categories.

**In 2022, we sponsored our biggest mentor trip to date.**  
**We hosted a 2.5 day trip to Washington D.C. for 39 student winners from 15 states.**

After our trip, *Rachel Xu*, our *Best High School Essay winner from Florida* said, “The Constituting America team not only managed to bring us to a number of important and historically significant attractions across the city pertaining to **our country's rich, layered history as a novel and thriving republic**, but they were thoughtful enough to invite a number of Constitution experts and reporters who shared with us their **unique and nuanced perspective on our democratic values.**”

*Melanie McNair*, *Best Middle School STEM Winner* said, “I had so much fun learning about American History and **meeting others who share my passion for the Constitution.** It was truly a blessing to be able to go on this trip and I will be forever grateful to the donors and Constituting America for the opportunity to experience Washington D.C.”

Middle Schooler and Best Essay winner Trijal Tagadur said, “Strolling around Mount Vernon left me to ponder how I was walking in the same house, the same pathways, and the same stairs that the father of our country set his feet on. Exploring the heart of our beloved nation gave me incredible insight into the historical city of Washington D.C.”



*Thomas Jefferson with Winner Ella Dumas,  
Best Middle School STEM, Texas*



# WASHINGTON D.C. MENTOR TRIP CONT.

Over the course of three days, our group toured the U.S. Capitol, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the Victims of Communism Museum, the National Archives, and Mount Vernon. We had the great honor to perform wreath-laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery and at George Washington's Tomb at Mount Vernon. A Thomas Jefferson reenactor visited with students about the importance of Civil Civic Conversation and we had dinner at the historic Decatur House.



“It felt sacred to visit **Arlington National Cemetery** and **Mount Vernon** where George Washington rests and pay my respects. Our visit to the **Victims of Communism Museum** was both depressing and humbling.”  
—Simran Gupta, Best Middle School Essay, GA





# IMPACTING THE CULTURE

Constituting America is the only organization that utilizes pop culture and media made by America’s students to inspire Americans of all ages to learn about the U.S. Constitution. We promote our winning students’ works and our other engaging and educational materials through national and social media, providing a fun and interactive approach to understanding the United States Constitution.

## Promoting Students’ Works



### Colt Jaxon’s Single

*Promoted by  
Constituting  
America*

In 2022, Constituting America promoted Colt Jaxon’s winning song “1A” on radio stations across the country. Jaxon wrote “1A” to express his love and appreciation for the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Jaxon’s song reached the **Top 5 Most Streamed songs** on PLAY MPE alongside artists like *Blake Shelton, Amy Sheppard, and Shane Profitt*. With our promotional help, “1A” received **6 million impressions on over 30 radio stations!**

Our students’ contest-winning PSAs reached **119 million TV households** across the nation and garnered over **50 million Nielsen-verified radio impressions on 20 major radio stations** across the nation.

In 2022, our We the Future contest winners’ PSAs, Short Films, and Music Videos received **12 film festival acceptances** from film festivals all across the nation.

Colt Jaxon’s 1A Music Video won Best Music Video in three separate film festivals. Adam Zheng’s “**Pizzas and Civil Civic Conversations**” PSA won a variety of awards from Best Director at the South Florida International Film Festival to Best Micro-Short Film at the Washington D.C. International Cinema Festival.

After his mentor trip Adam told us, “I am blown away by the opportunities Constituting America has provided me, from awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to going on an unforgettable trip and **promoting my PSA in households across the nation. I am ever grateful for the generous support of donors who make all of this possible.**”



*Adam Zheng with screenshot from his Winning PSA*

“In 2022, we reached **68.8 million** people on social media through posts and ads, which means **we reached nearly 200,000 people every day on social media for the entire year.**”

*—Jacob VanDerwerken, Program Director*

## Social Media & Advertising

We put effort into promoting our winners’ works, podcasts and constitutional messaging across various social media platforms. Our ever-growing social media network has helped us gain a significant following on Facebook and become one of the largest Constitution Education organizations on YouTube. In fact, we’re one of the few organizations actively using Snapchat.

As of 2022, our social media presence has expanded to **120,000 followers** on various platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat. Over the past few years, we’ve gained over **7,000 followers** on Instagram alone and **2,700 subscribers** on YouTube in 2022 alone.

Our Instagram reels and YouTube shorts have become increasingly popular, garnering a total of **765,000 views** and growing daily. To build on this success, we’ve introduced a new “**We The Future**” contest category called **Social Media Video**. This category encourages high school and college students to submit a 60-second video showcasing how the first amendment rights can be used to effect change in the country or explaining why civil civic conversations are essential in our society today.



**34.7 Million**  
*2022 Youtube impressions*  
**25,000** all time subscribers



**24.8 Million**  
*2022 Facebook impressions*  
**82,300** all time followers



**2.7 Million**  
*2022 Twitter impressions*  
**3,400** all time followers



**370,000**  
*2022 Instagram impressions*  
**8,200** all time followers



**1 Million**  
*2022 Snapchat impressions*  
**9,000** ad clicks in 2022



# WINNER INVOLVEMENT



We're so pleased that **our winners remain involved with Constituting America for years after their first entry.**

Our former winners serve on our **National Youth Advisory Board**, co-host our Constitutional Chats Live Podcasts, work on our advertising team, provide tips to prospective contest entrants, and much more.

We have been pleased to welcome many of our former contest winners as co-hosts on our Constitutional Chats Live Podcast. Former winners **Yashica Nabar, Lindsey Larkin, Halley Moak, Tova Kaplan, Jewel Gilbert, and Jorne Gilbert** bring thoughtful questions and perspectives to our weekly podcasts as student co-hosts.

Former STEM Winner **Aubrey Jackman** works as our Media Director, handling all the tech for our Constitutional Chats Live Podcasts and presentations.

Our Former Short Film Winner **Jacob VanDerwerken** has handled our strategy

and advertising since early 2020 and has worked full-time as our Program Director since May 2022.

Former PSA and Song Winner **Emily VanDerwerken** works as an Art Director designing much of our digital and print promotional content.

Former Song Winner **Isabella Cring** is a valued member of our media team and Winner Liaison planning the Winner Mentor Trip.



*Winner Margaret Alvine,  
Best High School Essay, California*

**“From my freshman year of college to now two years post graduation, I’m ever grateful for the opportunities and relationships Constituting America has continued to give me.”**

*–Emily VanDerwerken, Former Winner & Current Art Director*

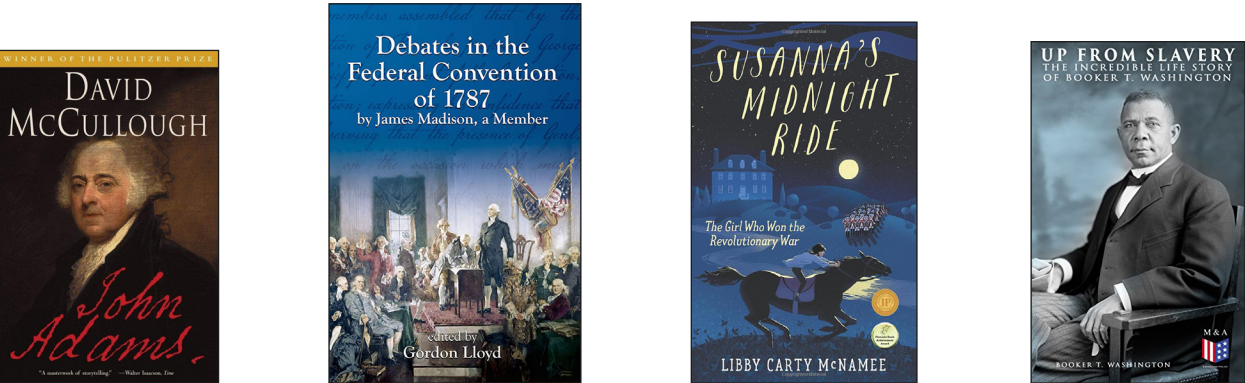


## Mobile App

In 2021 we launched our Constituting America App designed by our Best STEM winner **Tova Love Kaplan**. The app features our 90-Day Studies, a portal to our We the Future contest for students to enter, and a fun quiz designed by our We the Future Best STEM winner: **Aubrey Jackman**!

## Book Club

Every few months, new books are selected for different age groups for Constituting America’s Virtual Book Club. Past We the Future contest winner **Tova Love Kaplan** hosted Live Zoom discussions for members of the book club to tune in and share their thoughts.





# CONSTITUTION DAY PROGRAM

For our 2022 Constitution Day celebration, we hosted six hours of virtual video workshops. A record-breaking **6,700 students from over 130 schools in 46 states** attended our all-day Live Zoom program! This exciting program included nine workshops, with a variety of prominent guests giving tips and discussing the relevance of the Constitution in their lines of work. Student winners of our We the Future Contest, ranging from elementary school through college, received real life advice from

**"This was the first time my students had the Constitution read aloud to them! Thank YOU!"**

—Sandra Melton, Teacher

professionals in their fields and educated their peers about the importance of the Constitution and their winning works. Through this celebration, we helped students learn how the Constitution applies to their strengths and interests!



After our Constitution Day presentations, one of our teacher attendees, Jennifer Burtram, contacted us to say, **"My students were proud of themselves** that they could say they have read the Constitution in its entirety. It sparked great conversation about new words to understand, and we **all left with more respect for our country's unique history and structure."**

Another attendee named Robin Labenz said, "It was amazing to see **so many youth interested in the U.S. Constitution** and learning about how this country works. Thank you for such a great and inspiring program!"

Finally, David Cornett, Teacher at Webster MS said, "The best way to understand the Constitution is to see it in action— **how the document affects the lives of real people—and that is just what was delivered!** Well done."


★ The Constitution was signed on **September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1787** and is remembered on September 17<sup>th</sup> each year as Constitution Day.

Schools across the nation are required by law to hold Constitutional education programs on or around this day each year. **Constituting America is proud to have been a provider of this programming to over 130 schools in 46 states on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

### Schedule of Events

**10:15 AM – LIVE Reading of the U.S. Constitution**  
Constituting America staff and student winners read the U.S. Constitution in its entirety to the live audience.

 **11:30 AM – The Constitution & Crafts Workshop:**  
**Texas Poet Laureate Karla Morton** leads students in crafting their own poem and art project with a printable color-along of winner Addie Nester's printable coloring page.

 **12:00 PM – The Constitution & Cinema Workshop:**  
**Film producer Micheal Flaherty** discusses Constitutional principles behind our We The Future Contest winners' short films and gives tips on creating successful storyboards.


**12:30 PM – The Constitution & Science Workshop:**  
We walk through Ella Dumas's winning STEM Project—a **Constitution-themed Escape Room**—and with the help of the live audience, we escape!

 **1:00 PM – The Constitution & Citizenship Workshop:**  
**Americana Corner Founder Tom Hand** and Turner Maurice Gauntt, Jr. Exemplary Citizenship Award winners talk about the importance of citizenship and what it means.

**1:30 PM – The First Amendment Workshop:**  
Students learn how to write a petition and use their unalienable rights protected by the Constitution!

 **2:00 PM – The Constitution & Communication:**  
**CNN Commentator and Communications Consultant Alice Stewart** discusses Constitutional principles in our winners' writing and gives tips on how to deliver strong arguments.

 **2:30 PM – How to Have a Civil Civic Conversation:**  
**U.S. Semiquincentennial Chair and former Treasurer of the United States, Rosie Rios** discusses "How to Have a Civil Civic Conversation" with students and why it's important!

 **3:00 PM – The Constitution & Concert Workshop:**  
**Nashville songwriter Steve Dean** discusses our winners' songs and gives tips on how to write lyrics and music!



# TURNER MAURICE GAUNTT, JR. EXEMPLARY CITIZEN AWARD



Every year since 2014, Constituting America has selected an outstanding high school senior to be the recipient of the annual **Turner Maurice Gauntt, Jr. Exemplary Citizen Award**. Started in honor of Janine Turner's late father, this scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who exemplifies the qualities Turner Gauntt displayed: academic and athletic excellence, student body leadership, and community service. The scholarship provides winners with a one-time scholarship of **\$4,540** for use toward higher education.

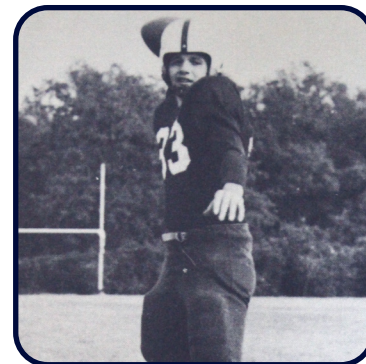
## Mr. Gauntt's Four Cornerstones



Academic  
Excellence



Student Body  
Leadership



Athletic  
Excellence



Community  
Service

## Our Exemplary Citizens



Jonah Hensley  
(2021)



Carson Winkie  
(2020)



Kirk Taylor  
(2019)



Gabe Maggio  
(2018)



Miranda Chastain  
(2017)



Parker Emerich  
(2016)



Lexi Lassiter  
(2015)



Austin Dobbs  
(2014)

## Leena Mehendale (2022)

In 2022, Constituting America selected **Leena Mehendale** of Dallas, Texas to receive the Turner Maurice Gauntt, Jr. Exemplary Citizen Award. In high school, Leena served as President of the Hockaday Social Impact Board and captained three different sports teams. She was Co-Chair of the Hockaday Nonprofit Fashion Show and co-founded her own nonprofit run2learn, raising over \$5,000 for each organization. In the realm of athletics, Leena earned 12 varsity letters and many MVP Awards across cross country, soccer, and track and field. In the classroom, Leena earned Cum Laude Society honors and was a member of the Head of School List. She is currently attending MIT as a member of the women's soccer team.



"With his strong involvement in his community, Mr. Gauntt stood for not only the four cornerstones of this award, but so much more as well. Because of how much respect and admiration I hold for the character traits and values which Mr. Gauntt himself embodied throughout his lifetime, **it's truly one of the highest honors to have received the Turner Maurice Gauntt, Jr. Award.**"

—Leena Mehendale, 2022 Award Winner





# ★ ANNUAL 90-DAY STUDY

“A daily short essay that contains truth,  
facts and truly interesting history is  
wonderfully convenient.”

—90-Day Study Participant

## American Exceptionalism Revealed: The Historic Rise and Fall of Worldwide Regimes and How Founding Wisdom Prevails

In early 2022, we launched our 12th annual 90-Day Study “American Exceptionalism Revealed: The Historic Rise & Fall of Worldwide Regimes and How Founding Wisdom Prevails.” This study traces a comprehensive history and analysis of the various experiments in government that humans have tried over the past three millennia. Where other curricula might merely touch on this information, our American Exceptionalism 90-Day Study leads students to deeply examine the thought processes of the Framers as they considered questions like the nature of man, the role of virtue, and the limits of governmental power.

Since 2010, we have published over **1,336 essays** by  
**207 guest constitutional scholars.** “90 + 90 = 180.  
History Holds the Key to the Future”

In 2022, we published **90 essays** from **22** nationally-known Constitutional scholars, historians, and elected officials! When surveyed, **97% of our study participants learned something new about the Constitution and our country’s founding principles.** Since 2010, we have published over **1,336 essays** by **207** guest constitutional scholar essayists. This resource is archived and searchable on our website.

Through the generous donation of **Mr. Tom Hand, founder of AmericanaCorner.com**, we promoted our 2022 essays in podcast and video form on YouTube. These essays have been viewed on YouTube over **one million** times.

“This study demonstrated that **our Founding Fathers had great long-term historical understanding** of how well past governments fared under a variety of structures and drafted our documents in ways that would provide the greatest probability of success for our nation.”

—90-Day Study Participant

Jonah Hensley, Wyatt Hensley  
& Halley Moak, Best Cinematic  
Ensemble, Missouri & Colorado



## 2022 American Exceptionalism Revealed Topics

The 30 topics below are broken down in-depth throughout our 90-Day Study. Each topic includes an introductory essay and two additional essays with corresponding **Federalist Papers** and **Constitutional wisdom revealing America’s Exceptionalism.** See Topic 1 as an example.

### 1. Plato, Aristotle, And Ancient Greek Thought on Human Nature & Good Government

I. **Overview** – *Wisdom of the Founders: Framing a Constitution on Human Nature*

II. **Federalist and Anti-Federalist Wisdom** – *American Founders’ Reliance on Western Tradition: Correcting Failures of Plato, Aristotle, and Ancient Greek Thought*

III. **The Constitution’s Wisdom** – *The Five Principles That Render the American Republic More Stable*

2. Athens and Sparta Democratic Instabilities of Each
3. The Stoics & Classic Roman Thought on Human Nature and Good Government (Cicero)
4. The Roman Republic
5. Republic of Venice
6. Holy Roman Empire
7. United Provinces of Netherlands (Federal Head over Constituent Sovereigns)
8. Machiavelli in Science and Politics (Pursuit and Maintenance of Power by the Ruler)
9. Sun King Louis XIV (King as Sovereign)
10. King versus Parliament in 17th Century England
11. Mayflower Compact (Government by Consent and by God)
12. Creation of Colonial Governments in North America (Failure of Royal Control)
13. Declaration of Independence (Human Nature)
14. Early State Constitutions
15. Articles of Confederation
16. The Bill of Rights
17. The Progressive Era & Its Challenge to the Constitution
18. The Importance of Virtue
19. The French Revolution & Reign of Terror
20. The Rise of Napoleon
21. The Communist Manifesto
22. The American Civil War Disunion & Reconstruction
23. World War I & Collapse of Old World Order
24. Stalin & The Military Regime
25. The Economic Depression & Birth of New Deals (Dangers of Administrative State/Unelected)
26. Hitler & the Third Reich
27. Chairman Mao & The Cultural Revolution
28. The Creation of the United Nations & Citizens of the World
29. Collapse of the British Empire
30. The Failings of Utopian Creation Experiments

## Previous Studies:

2022: American Exceptionalism Revealed  
2021: The Declaration of Independence  
2020: In the Course of Human Events  
2019: State and Local Government  
2018: The Congress  
2017: U.S. Supreme Court Decisions/Justices

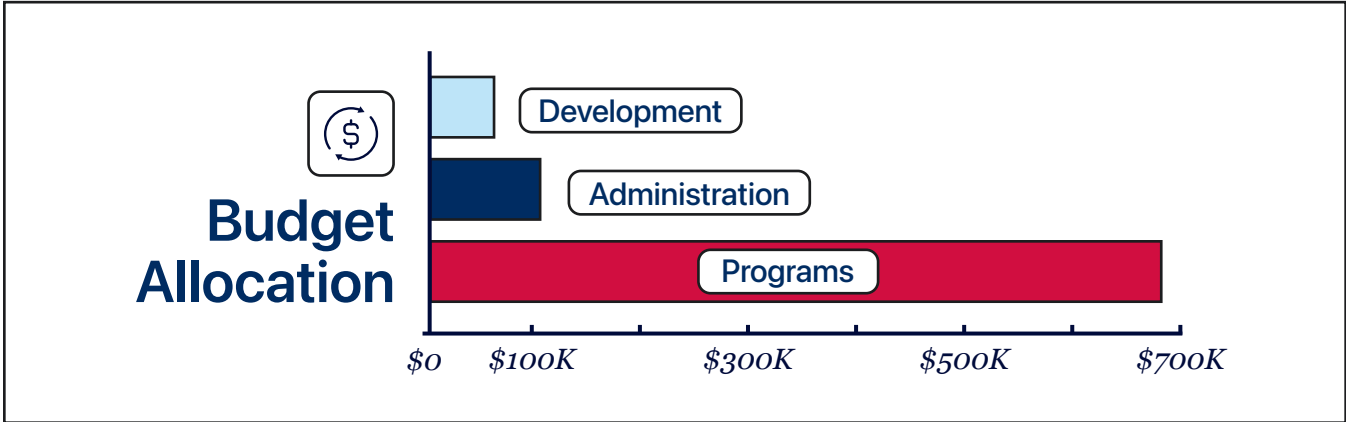
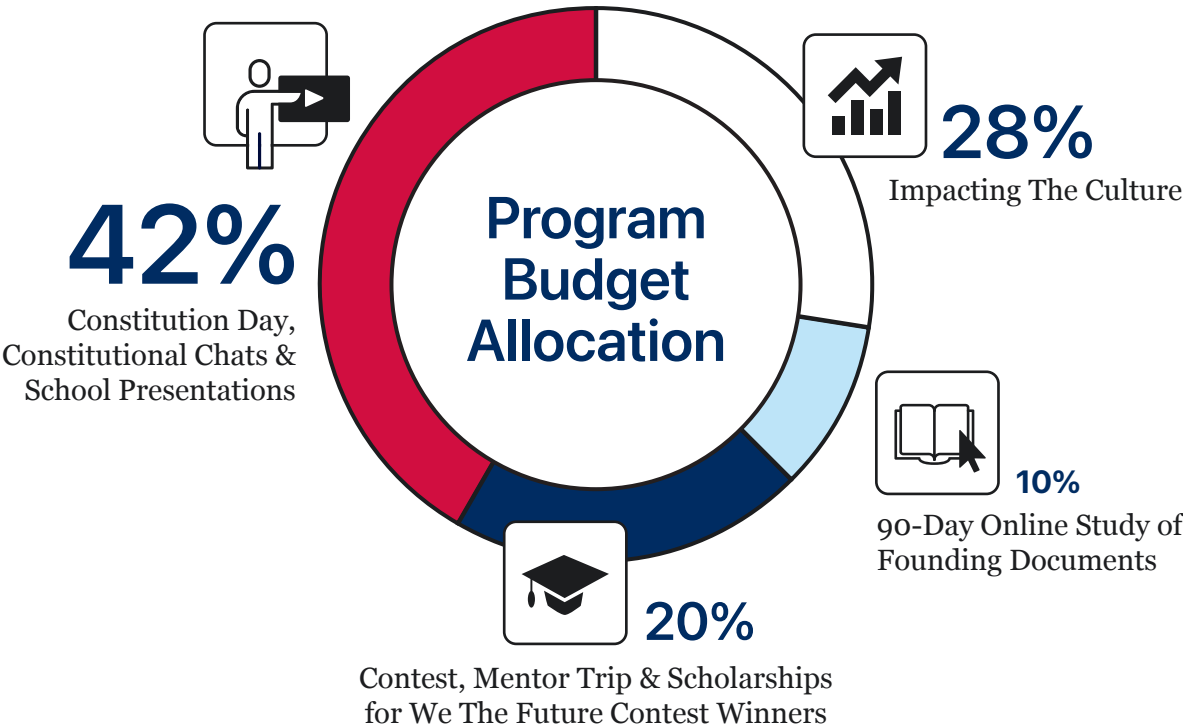
2016: Presidential Elections & the Constitution  
2015: Constitutional Crisis - Executive Overreach  
2013: The Classics that Inspired the Constitution  
2012: The Amendments  
2011: The Constitution  
2010: The Federalist Papers



# FINANCIAL REPORT

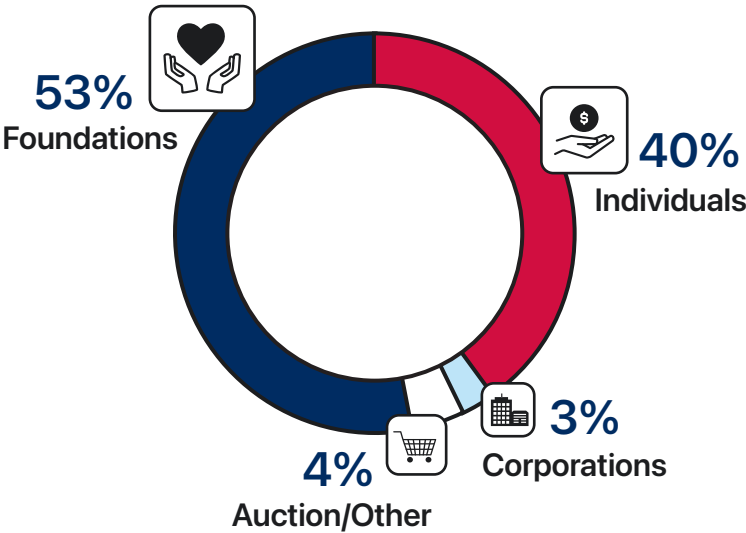
Each year, Constituting America has responsibly budgeted for programs and events to stay in line with our fundraising goals. A monthly and annual analysis of spending is maintained to ensure financial targets are met.

In 2022 our total revenue was **\$1,044,540** and **\$862,125** was invested in 2022 Programs and Operations. (unaudited figures - the audit will be available by August 2022).



Our biggest mentor trip yet with 39 We The Future winners on the 2022 Winner Mentor Trip in front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C.

## Receipts by Donor Type



Winner Lily Cring,  
Best High School PSA, Florida





# HOW TO DONATE

There are many opportunities for you to invest in Constituting America’s wide range of ongoing projects and programs. Together, we can spread knowledge and excitement about our Constitution and our country’s founding principles, equipping and empowering the next generation!

## See What Your Generous Gift Can Do!

- \$100,000 – Annual George Washington Speaking Initiative**
- \$50,000 – We The Future Contest Winners’ Mentor Trip**
- \$25,000 – Educational Speaker Series, Named After You!**
- \$15,000 – Annual 90-Day Online Constitutional Study**
- \$12,000 – We The Future College Scholarships**
- \$10,000 – 700,000 Views on our 90-Day Study Essay Videos**
- \$6,000 – We The Future High School Scholarships**
- \$4,500 – Turner Maurice Gauntt, Jr. Scholarship**
- \$2,000 – One We The Future College Scholarship**
- \$1,000 – One We The Future High School Scholarship**
- \$500 – Sponsor one Live Constitutional Chats Podcast Episode**
- \$250 – Sponsor half of a Live Constitutional Chats Podcast Episode**
- \$100 – 10,000 Views on a Student’s Winning Work**
- \$17.87 – Join Our Monthly Donor Club for as little as \$17.87 a month!**

“On my Winner Mentor Trip, I learned from Thomas Jefferson in the U.S. Capitol that we truly can see eye-to-eye as long as we sit down and have a conversation with others. Opportunities like this are not only an investment into the future, but a way of advocating for the young hearts of America. I will think about this trip forever, all thanks to you.”

–Winner Yashica Nabar, Best Short Film, Texas



Scan to learn more and donate today,  
or visit [constitutingamerica.org/donate](https://constitutingamerica.org/donate)  
or text “**CONSTITUTINGUSA**” to 51555

## To Our Corporate and Foundation Sponsors, Thank you!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <i>Americana Corner</i>                           | <i>The Hobbs Foundation</i>                           |
| <i>The Armstrong Foundation</i>                   | <i>The Holman Foundation</i>                          |
| <i>The Mary &amp; Roy Anderson Foundation</i>     | <i>Ourisman Automotive Group</i>                      |
| <i>The Anschutz Foundation</i>                    | <i>Passport Automotive Group</i>                      |
| <i>The William S. and Ann Atherton Foundation</i> | <i>The Pat Boone Foundation</i>                       |
| <i>The Catholic Foundation</i>                    | <i>The Sorenson Legacy Foundation</i>                 |
| <i>The Daniels Fund</i>                           | <i>The Stones of Jasper Foundation</i>                |
| <i>The Diana Davis Spencer Foundation</i>         | <i>The Sutton Family Foundation</i>                   |
| <i>Diamond Hill Retreat</i>                       | <i>The Woodford Foundation for Limited Government</i> |
| <i>The Wayne Duddleston Foundation</i>            | <i>Zimmerman Resources</i>                            |
| <i>History Salvanged, LLC</i>                     |   |

At Constituting America, we are grateful for the funding we receive from a wide variety of sources. These sources include the following: Corporate Sponsorships, Individual Donations, Foundation Grants, Gifts, Governing Board Donations, Leadership Board Donations, Nationwide Events, Online Auctions, and Text to Donate.

## ★ Shop at Our Store & Auction

Buy American themed gifts for your loved ones from our store! We have T-shirts, posters, cards, and more. Find more American themed treasures by bidding during our Summer and Holiday Auctions we hold online every year.





# BOARD & STAFF

Cathy Gillespie



**Board Chair & Treasurer**  
*Retired (former Chief of Staff on Capitol Hill, Current: Commissioner, U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission) Virginia*

Juliette Turner-Jones



**Secretary**  
*Student, Harvard Law School Texas*

Linda Moak



**Director**  
*Retired, Community Leader, Real Estate Manager Colorado*

Jay McConville



**Director**  
*Retired (former CEO, Current: Pursuing PhD Public Policy VCU) Virginia*

Brandon Vanderford



**Director & Assistant Treasurer**  
*Owner, Foundation Sound Studios (Adjunct Associate Professor of Economics, UT Arlington) Texas*

Geyer Dybesland



**Director**  
*Community Leader & Volunteer Texas*

Kim Harmon Gatlin



**Director**  
*Producer and Author*

Janice Gauntt



**Director**  
*Top Selling Tarrant County Realtor*

## Leadership Board 2022:

Cindy Clark  
Sylvia Clark  
Chuck Cloudis  
Horace Cooper  
Wayne Hermendorfer

Dwayne Horner  
Kristie McCrary  
Amber McNutt  
Linda Moak  
Pam Pryor

Peter Roff  
Mitch Roper  
Phil Rosenthal  
Dennis Stephens  
Fred Thompson

Cathy Tripodi  
Marijo Tinlin  
Barbara Bowie Whitman



Janine Turner  
*Founder*



Cathy Gillespie  
*CEO*



Elizabeth Pinkerton  
*Executive Director*



Jacob VanDerwerken  
*Program Director*



Amanda Hughes  
*90-Day Study Director*



Jeanette Kraynak  
*Operations Director/Eastern Regional Speech Director*



Aubrey Jackman  
*Media Director/Western Regional Speech Director*



Jill Cullis  
*Education Specialist/Colorado Coordinator*



BreAnna Birchell  
*Social Media Specialist*



Terry Cherry  
*Educational Consultant*



Isabella Cring  
*Winner Liaison/Media Coordinator*



Matthew Gehring  
*Social Media Specialist*



Tova Love Kaplan  
*Youth Director/Chats Panelist*



Bobby Rodriguez  
*Videographer*



Kim Rostick  
*School Speaker*



Brandon Vanderford  
*School Speaker*



Emily VanDerwerken  
*Art Director*

Winner Nicholas Heiniger,  
Best College STEM, Georgia





# LOOKING FORWARD

Since 2013, we have delivered 806 school presentations in 29 states. By the end of the 2025 school year, we will have fully built out programs in 25 states.

Over the past year, Constituting America has been focusing on several high-value target states with opportunities to deeply penetrate the local school systems and establish ourselves as a curriculum provider of choice. Buoyed by that success, and a generous leadership gift from the *Diana Davis Spencer Foundation*, we are seeking significant philanthropic investment for a three-phase nationwide scaling of our proven model.

**Phase One (2023-24 School Year):**

Based on current operating resources, for the 2023-2024 school year, we will focus our efforts in twelve states— **Colorado, Utah, Oklahoma, and Texas**, where our build out has already begun, and **Maryland, Pennsylvania, Florida, Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio, and Washington, D.C.**, where we are poised to begin the same level of outreach and investment.

These states were chosen to leverage relationships with schools, funders, and potential speakers. We are proud to have received dedicated funding from the *Diana Davis Spencer Foundation* for this expansion, as well as the *Daniels Fund* and the *Anscutz Foundation* for our efforts in Colorado, the *Sorenson Legacy Foundation* to fund our work in Utah, the *Hatton W. Sumners Foundation* for our Oklahoma work, and the *Wayne Duddleston Foundation* to make our efforts in Houston and Texas possible.

**Phase Two (2024-25 School Year):**

In phase two of our national build out, Constituting America will target areas of greatest need in the battlefield of ideas. We will maintain efforts in our Phase One states, with a goal of adding three additional states. Possible targets include **Arizona** and **Tennessee**, where all students pass a civics

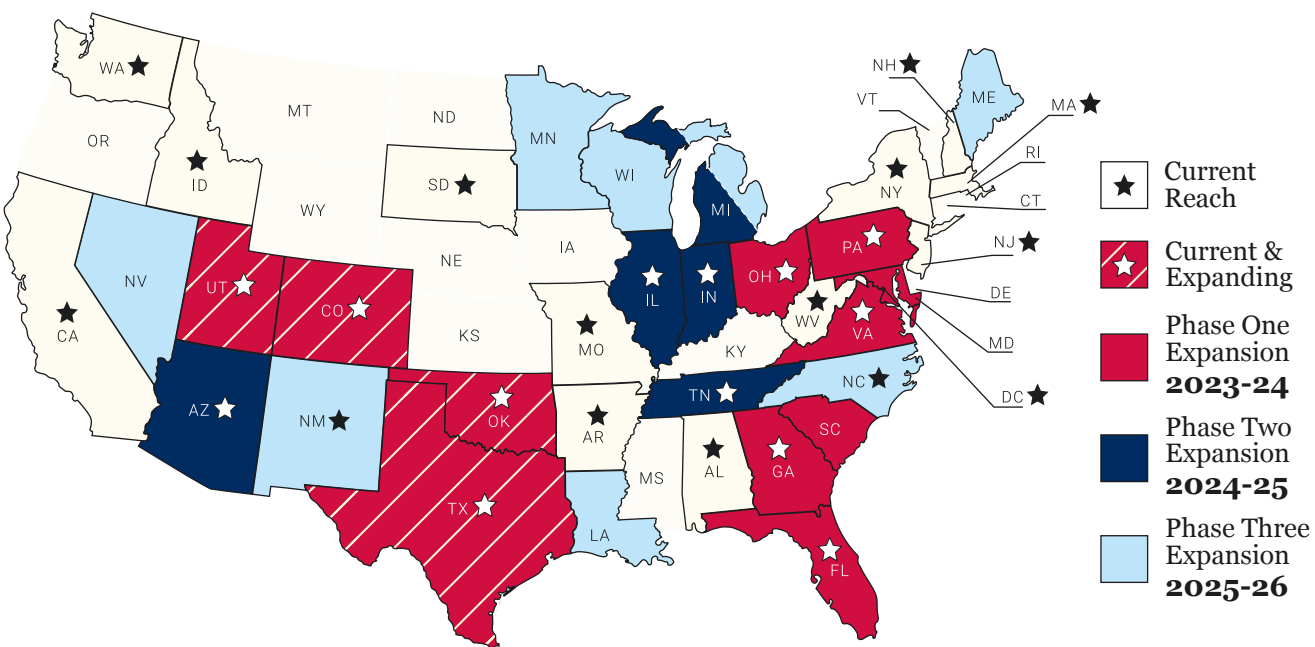
test before graduating from high school (*with Tennessee students required to pass the United States citizenship and immigration test*); **Illinois, Michigan and Indiana**.

**Phase Three (2025-26 School Year):**

In phase three we will maintain and expand target states from years one and two, from among the following possible targets:

**Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Nevada and New Mexico.** By the end of year three—in time for the start of the landmark 250th birthday celebrations of the Declaration of Independence—Constituting America will have **full-scale operations in nearly half the states.**

Constituting America Reach Map







# At Constituting America, we are dedicated to **EDUCATING & EMPOWERING** the rising generation of America and adults on the founding documents.

We offer **free interactive presentations** to schools, teaching students of all ages how to use the Constitution to effect change in their government and engage in civil, civic conversations.

Our **nationwide scholarship contest** is truly unique, as we are the only Constitutional education foundation that professionally promotes the works of our winning students on various platforms, such as television, radio, movie theaters, and publications.

Our **annual 90-Day Online Study program** brings together Constitutional scholars and professors from all over the nation to engage in discussions with the general public.

Through our various programs, we strive to **keep the torch of liberty ablaze** for future generations, one student at a time.



**LEARN MORE &  
DONATE TODAY**

## **SUPPORT OUR CONSTITUTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

*Constituting America is a Combined Federal Campaign Approved Charity, #37961*

*ConstitutingAmerica.org | AmericanThing.org  
P.O. Box 1988, Colleyville, Texas 76034 | 1-888-937-0917*

*Constituting America is recognized as exempt from federal income taxes by the Internal Revenue Service and is described in Section 501(c)(3). Constituting America is eligible to receive tax deductible contributions under Section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).  
Federal ID#: 27-2083548.*