



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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C-SPAN ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 2018 STUDENTCAM DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

First and Second Amendment rights among popular constitutional topics explored by students



Adam Koch and Tyler Cooney will receive \$5,000 from C-SPAN for their Grand Prize documentary, "Old Enough to Fight, Old Enough to Vote."

WASHINGTON (March 7, 2018) – C-SPAN announced the winners of the national 2018 StudentCam documentary competition awarding a total of \$100,000 in cash prizes to winning documentaries.

Each year since 2006, C-SPAN partners with its local cable television providers in communities nationwide to invite middle and high school students to produce short documentaries about a subject of national importance. This year students addressed the theme, "The Constitution & You: Choose a provision of the U.S. Constitution and create a video illustrating why it's important to you."

In response, C-SPAN received a record 2,985 video submissions from over 5,700 students in 46 states and Washington, D.C. The most popular provisions of the Constitution explored by students were the First Amendment (26 percent), followed by the Second Amendment (16 percent) and the 14th Amendment (11 percent).

"With so much national debate about government power and personal freedoms, we were eager to hear students' perspectives on what the Constitution means to them," said C-SPAN's Manager of Education Relations Craig McAndrew. "Students across the country engaged in conversation on the local level with elected officials, experts, community leaders and educators to explore how national issues impact their daily lives."

This year's grand prize winners are Adam Koch and Tyler Cooney. They will receive \$5,000 for their documentary, "[Old Enough to Fight, Old Enough to Vote](#)," about the 26th Amendment. Adam and Tyler are seniors at Dallas Center - Grimes

High School in Grimes, Iowa (Mediacom). Their winning documentary will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 22.

Hemakshi Gordy and Jansikwe Medina-Tayac, sophomores at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Maryland (Comcast), will receive \$3,000 as first prize winners in the East region for their documentary, "[No Trespassing: Seeking Justice for Native Women](#)," about justice for Native American women and the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Their winning video will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 21.

Will Foote and James Dyer, seniors at Whitefish Bay High School in Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin (Spectrum), will receive \$3,000 as first prize winners in the Central region for their documentary, "[WI Votes Count](#)," about gerrymandering and the 14th Amendment equal protection clause. Their winning video will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 20.

May Zhen and Payton Liquin, seniors at Capital High School in Boise, Idaho (Cable ONE), will receive \$3,000 as first prize winners in the West region for their documentary, "[Prison Reform](#)." Their winning video will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 19.

Kiera Lamb, Uma Fox and Kiah Beachler, eighth graders at Eastern Middle School in Silver Spring, Maryland (Comcast), are national first prize winners in the Middle School division. They will share \$3,000 for their documentary, "[Survival of the Veiled Face: The Constitutionality of Abortion](#)." Their winning video will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 18.

High school students competed on a regional level with the United States being divided into three regions: West, Central and East. Middle school students were judged on a national basis. The grand prize winner was selected nationally among all regions and grade levels.

In addition to the grand prize and first-prize winners, C-SPAN is awarding 16 second-prize winners, 32 third-prize winners and 97 honorable mention prizes. These winning videos will receive cash awards of \$1,500, \$750 and \$250, respectively. C-SPAN is also recognizing two additional documentaries: "Fan Favorite" and "Judges' Special Citation for Creativity."

Hemakshi Gordy and Jansikwe Medina-Tayac are this year's "Fan Favorite" winners. They will receive an additional \$500 their documentary, "[No Trespassing: Seeking Justice for Native Women](#)." The public was presented with the opportunity to cast votes for their favorite documentary among 12 of the top winners from Feb. 26-March 4.

Middle school students Raheem Baker, William Mcknight and Zane'ah Moultrie participated in StudentCam through their church program Sozo Missions in Bradenton. They have been awarded a "Judges' Special Citation for Creativity" prize and will receive \$1,000 for their video, "[Be True to The Constitution, The First Amendment Rap](#)." Their winning video will air on C-SPAN at 6:50 a.m. ET and throughout the day on April 17.

Each winning video is available to view at <http://www.studentcam.org/winners18.htm> and may be used in a broadcast with attribution to C-SPAN.

The annual competition is sponsored by the C-SPAN Education Foundation. Videos were evaluated by a panel of educators and C-SPAN representatives based on the thoughtful examination of the competition's theme, quality of expression, inclusion of varying sides of the documentary's topic, and effective incorporation of C-SPAN programming.

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About C-SPAN Classroom:

C-SPAN Classroom is the network's FREE membership service that works with C-SPAN's programs on public affairs, coverage of Congress, non-fiction books and American history to create free resources for teachers, students and the public to use in classrooms, projects or for research. C-SPAN Classroom's website provides social studies teachers with access to thousands of free resources, including short current events videos, Lesson Plans and Bell Ringers, plus

Constitution Clips and On This Day in History events. Visit <https://www.c-span.org/classroom/> and follow on twitter: @CSPANClassroom.

About C-SPAN:

Created by the cable TV industry and now in nearly 100 million TV households, C-SPAN programs three commercial-free public affairs television networks; C-SPAN Radio, heard in Washington, D.C., at 90.1 FM and available as an App; and [C-SPAN.org](https://www.c-span.org), a video-rich website offering live coverage of government events and access to the vast archive of C-SPAN programming.

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