

HSA Virtual Service Project for Fall 2020 Profiles in Courage Workshop Overview

This activity, formed by the Honor Student Association (HSA), is organized into a **book discussion** about John F. Kennedy's novel *Profiles in Courage* and an **essay workshop** for the Profile in Courage Essay Contest held by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation. The contest is open from September 1, 2020 to January 15, 2021 for high schoolers under age 20. For more info on eligibility and the essay contest, click the Part 2 link. The PIC Workshop is from October 15, 2020 to December 3, 2020. Each Zoom session will be held on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00pm EST (contact us to receive the Zoom invitation).

Awards of the Profile in Courage Essay Contest are specified below:

- 1st place: \$10,000 | Nominating Teacher receives JFK Public Service Grant of \$500
- 2nd place: \$3,000
- 5 finalists: \$1,000 each
- 8 semi-finalists: \$500 each
- 10 applicants receive honorable mentions

Part 1: Book Discussion



- Identify how Kennedy defines political courage.
- Analyze the political acts of courage displayed by the politicians described in the novel.
- Compare their actions, and evaluate the impact(s) they had on society.
- Brainstorm acts of political courage by other eligible U.S. elected officials*.

Part 2: Essay Workshop

- Review the requirements for the **Profile in Courage Essay Contest**. Note a nominating teacher – must be contestant's high school teacher – to guide the research and writing process.
- Analyze past winning essays.
- Search for and choose a U.S. elected official* who currently displays or has displayed an act of political courage that aligns with Kennedy's definition.
- Create a research plan and discuss online resources.
 - Faculty members (librarians, faculty expert, etc.)
 - Tutoring & Writing Center
 - Public and digital libraries, research platforms/databases



- Start the research process.
 - Gather at least 5 credible sources
 - Write a short annotated bibliography (OPTIONAL)
 - Interview your chosen subject (OPTIONAL)
- Start the writing process.
 - Outline
 - Rough draft
 - Review & editing
 - Final draft



In order to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and the community, this service project will be held **virtually** through Zoom.

PDF and full texts of the book are found online for **free** on **Internet Archive**, a non-profit digital library. Physical copies can be borrowed from public libraries and bought online (Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc.). Used books range from \$3 to \$5 and new books range from \$10 to \$30.

*Non-eligible U.S. elected officials include those from before 1917, those from past winning essays**, those already identified in the novel, and the Kennedy's (John F., Robert F., and Edward M.)

U.S. elected officials from past winning essays may be eligible subjects only if a **different act of political courage is described in the essay.

For more information, please DM our Instagram account @fcchsa or contact Jazlynn Aguon at Jaguon370@myfcc.frederick.edu or call/text (240) 394-6838.

Ambassador, Honor Student Association



This workshop is not sponsored by the JFK Library Foundation.