

# 2009 City Civic Education Projects Form

Many Florida cities offer educational programs that teach residents about the inner workings of their municipal government. The Florida League of Cities is compiling a resource base of municipal civic education programs and will showcase them on our Web site, [www.flcities.com](http://www.flcities.com). If your city has a program or programs you'd like to include, please use the following format and e-mail your entries to Casey Cook at [ccook@flcities.com](mailto:ccook@flcities.com). The backside of this form includes two sample civic education projects, along with a list of cities and projects that we have already received.

Project title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date program started: \_\_\_\_\_. Please specify if the program is ongoing.

FLC Member Name (i.e. City or County of): \_\_\_\_\_

Summary (200 words or less): \_\_\_\_\_

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Contact's full name/title: \_\_\_\_\_

Divison/Office/Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTOGRAPHS** ("Instant" Photos Are Not Acceptable)  
Digital photographs must be 300ppi, TIF or JPEG format. Please package materials carefully so that they are of DISPLAY QUALITY.

Submit all entries no later than Friday, May 1, 2009, to Casey Cook by e-mailing your submissions and photographs to [ccook@flcities.com](mailto:ccook@flcities.com). Please send one entry, and the photographs that go with that entry, per e-mail. You will receive a confirmation e-mail – if you do not get one, please check with Casey. Mail submissions to: Florida League of Cities, Inc., P.O. Box 1757, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757. For further information, call or e-mail Casey at the League office, (850) 701-3609.

## Sample Programs

### **“The Valley of Tropical Dreams” – City of Greenacres**

The City of Greenacres introduced an interactive project that sparked the ingenuity of students by challenging them to create and design their very own city, “The Valley of Tropical Dreams.” This creative initiative was a two-month activity that engaged 170 elementary and middle school students. The students chose a city name and logo, site plan, and elected a mayor, deputy mayor and council members. After two months of planning and brainstorming, “The Valley of Tropical Dreams” was constructed using cardboard boxes, recycled products and other donated materials. Elected “Valley” officials wrote and gave acceptance speeches during the mock election process. The culminating event took place during Florida City Government Week in October at an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony involving their parents and dignitaries from the City Commission and state Legislature. This experience was recorded and promoted in the local newspaper, *Greenacres Observer*.

**Contact:** Michele L. Thompson, CPRP, Director, Leisure Services Department

5800 Melaleuca Lane

Greenacres FL 33463

**Office:** (561) 642-2180

**Fax:** (561) 642-2190

**E-mail:** [MThompson@ci.greenacres.fl.us](mailto:MThompson@ci.greenacres.fl.us)

### **“Government on Wheels” – City of North Port**

The City of North Port promotes civic education by taking city government to the people. With the theme “Government on Wheels,” city officials speak to various community groups and school children about North Port. Participants include city commissioners, police and fire rescue, general services, public works, planning and zoning, parks and recreation, the city attorney and city manager’s office. North Port also has a “Why I Like My City” essay contest. The award winners receive a plaque and gift certificate during a City Commission meeting.

**Contact:** Erin Bryce, Community Outreach Manager

4970 City Hall Blvd.

North Port, FL 34286

**Office:** (941) 429-7165

**Cell:** (941) 628-0228

**E-mail:** [ebryce@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:ebryce@cityofnorthport.com)

## Municipal Government Civic Education Activities

The following is a list of the programs that we have received to date:

**Belle Glade**, Mock City Commission Meeting; **Cape Coral**, Citizens’ Academy; **Casselberry**, Essay Contest: “How City Government Benefits You”; **Coral Springs**, Teen Political Forum; **Delray Beach**, Municipal Job Shadowing Day, Residents Academy; **Deltona**, Social Services Summit, Deltona Fire Department Open House and Safety Day, Destination Deltona; **Gainesville**, Citizens’ Academy: Gainesville 101; **Greenacres**, Cool Zone Shadowing Project, Create Your Own City: Valley of Tropical Dreams; **Groveland**, “Groveland – I’m Part of It, I Proud of It!”; **Hallandale Beach**, Is Your City Smarter than a 5th Grader?; **Indian Rocks Beach**, City Officials Go Back to School; **Keystone Heights**, Kids Voting; **Kissimmee**, Interactive City Hall Tour; **Lake Wales**, Essay Contest: “My City, I’m Proud of It,” Lake Wales Municipal Coloring Book; **Lakeland**, Citizens’ Academy: Governmentology 101; **Lauderdale Lakes**, Citizens’ Academy; **Lauderhill**, Student Government Day Curriculum; **Live Oak**, Fields Trips to City Hall Hosted by the Mayor; **Lynn Haven**, Take Your Mayor to School Day; **Margate**, Municipal Express: Margate Student Council City Tour; **Miami Lakes**, Project Citizen Class; **Milton**, Municipal Government Seminar; **Naples**, Youth in Government Program; **North Port**, Government on Wheels; **Oldsmar**, Municipal Leadership Forum, Citizens’ Academy; **Orlando**, City Hall Open House; **Palm Coast**, Student City Government Day; **Palatka**, Government in the Sunshine; **Palm Bay**, World of Work Program; **Safety Harbor**, Florida City Government Week Puppet Show; **St. Cloud**, St. Cloud City Services Showcase; **St. Petersburg**, TASC Teen Councils; **Stuart**, Stuart Services Expo; **Tamarac**, City Service Spotlight: Emergency Operations Center, Tamarac University, Fire Rescue CERT and Cadet Program; **Weston**, Weston Government University Program