

\$500 CASH
PRIZE FOR FIRST
PLACE WINNERS

AND \$250 FOR
SECOND PLACE
WINNERS

Why My Family Counts in the 2020 Census

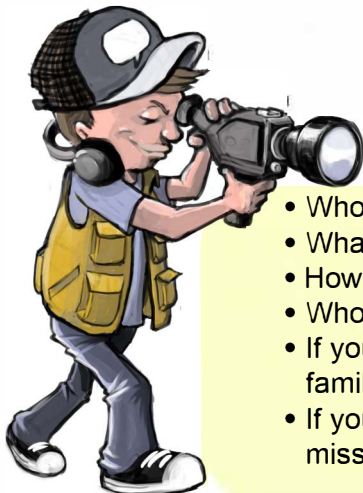
*A creative writing, poetry and arts contest for high school and college-age young people.
You must be 14–21 years old and live in San Francisco to be eligible.*

WHAT: Write a 400 word essay; design an art piece (painting, graffiti, mural); create a 2 minute video/audio – music rap or spoken word about your family. Explain who your family is, how and where your family lives, and why you think counting every member of your family matters to gain an accurate picture of the people who live in this city.

WHY: Every 10 years the U.S. Constitution requires that every person in the country be counted in order to determine how billions of federal dollars get spent for public services and how political power is distributed. The census is also like a huge mirror that tells us who we are as a society and who we are becoming. But there is a big risk that some people—especially the youngest children—will go uncounted. Your writing and art will help the City and County of San Francisco and news media spotlight why each person is so important to ensure a complete and accurate count of this city.

HOW: Send your submission (.doc, .jpg, .pdf, or link) to myfamilycounts@ethnicmediaservices.org. More information at www.ethnicmediaservices.org/myfamilycounts. Entries must be submitted before January 31, 2019. A judging panel of writers, artists and videographers will review all entries. Winners will be announced early next year.

AWARDS: A 1st place winner and a 2nd place winner will be selected for each age group and category – essay, art work, video and audio. There will be 8 first place winners and 8 second place winners in all. Each first place winner will receive a cash prize of \$500; each second place winner will receive \$250.



Use these prompts to think about your project

- Who is your family?
- What is different about your family?
- How would you describe your family to a total stranger?
- Who in your family are you closest to and why?
- If you do not live with blood relatives, who do you consider your family?
- If you had to leave your family for some reason, who would you miss most in your family?

