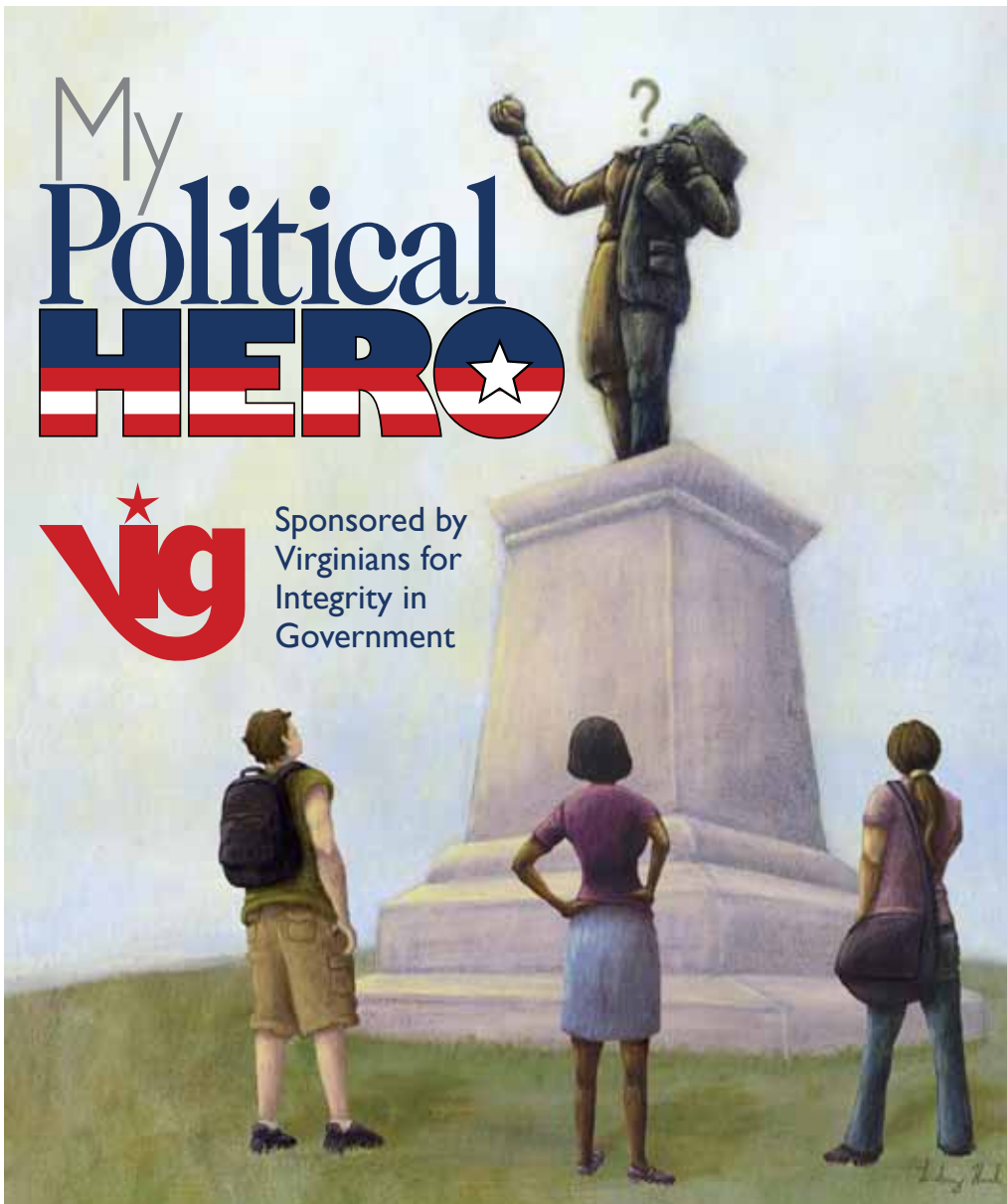


# My Political HERO



Sponsored by  
Virginians for  
Integrity in  
Government



## Honor Your Heroes! Virginia Student Essay Scholarship Contest

Virginians for Integrity in Government (VIG), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, announces a 2015 **My Political Hero Essay Contest** for high school students. David Bailey, a veteran lobbyist and member of the Board of VIG developed the contest to challenge and encourage Virginia high school students to pay tribute to their living political heroes and heroines. The winner of the contest will receive a \$2,000 post-secondary scholarship. VIG will also award \$1,000 scholarships. The essays will be printed in *Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine*.

The “heroes” can be elected officials, teachers, relatives, or any other citizens. They must be living Virginia residents.

VIG seeks to shed a more positive light on political figures and activists—the same light that is often reserved for scandal. Many political heroes and excellent public servants work in state legislatures, schools, neighborhoods, and ordinary households. The **My Political Hero** essay contest provides an avenue in which to recognize living influential persons.

### Contest Rules

1. All materials submitted become the property of **VIG**, and cannot be returned.
2. Entries must be original and previously unpublished.
3. This contest is open to residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia only. Entrants must be currently enrolled as high school students in Virginia public schools, Virginia private schools or Virginia home schools.
4. The “heroes” of the essays may be women or men. They must be Virginians—that is, they must have been born in Virginia, or currently reside in Virginia, or have given significant public service to the Commonwealth of Virginia. They must be living as of the date the essay is submitted.
5. Essays must be typed and submitted via email to [mypoliticalhero@capitolsquare.com](mailto:mypoliticalhero@capitolsquare.com) or by mail to **VIG Essays** 1001 East Broad Street • Suite 215 Richmond, VA 23219. They must be no longer than 800 words in length. They must be clearly labeled with the entrant’s name, school, and home address.
6. All entries must be received by May 1.
7. Entries will be judged equally on the basis of merit by a selection committee that will look for: Originality • Clear reasoning • Good writing. The decisions of the judges are final.
8. VIG has the right to edit and publish entries as the editors of *Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine* deem fit both in print and on the Web.
9. The winner, and his or her parent or legal guardian, agree to the use of the winner’s name, and entries in any form for publicity or trade purposes by VIG, without additional compensation.
10. There are no substitutions of prizes offered.
11. Winner will be announced in a future issue of *Virginia Capitol Connections Quarterly Magazine*.
12. The winner will be notified by mail and announced no later than June 1st.
13. The first prize is \$2,000 to be sent to a post-secondary school or college of the winner’s choice, upon his or her admission to that school. An unspecified number of runners up will be selected from the entries.

**All entries must be received by May 1.**