



Three Rivers  
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# Youth TOUR



# JUNE

## TREC WILL SEND SIX HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

# 14-20

## "A TRIP OF A LIFETIME"

# 2026

TREC 2025 YOUTH TOUR  
DELEGATES ARE FROM LEFT:  
MICHAEL GROENE, MALLORY  
MCDONNELL, EVERT  
MEHMERT, OLIVIA  
OLIGSCHLAAGER, JACK  
SCHOLLMAYER, KRISTI  
WIBBERG AND REID BAKER

THIS COULD BE YOU!



# WHAT IS **Youth TOUR?**

Washington  
D.C. 2026

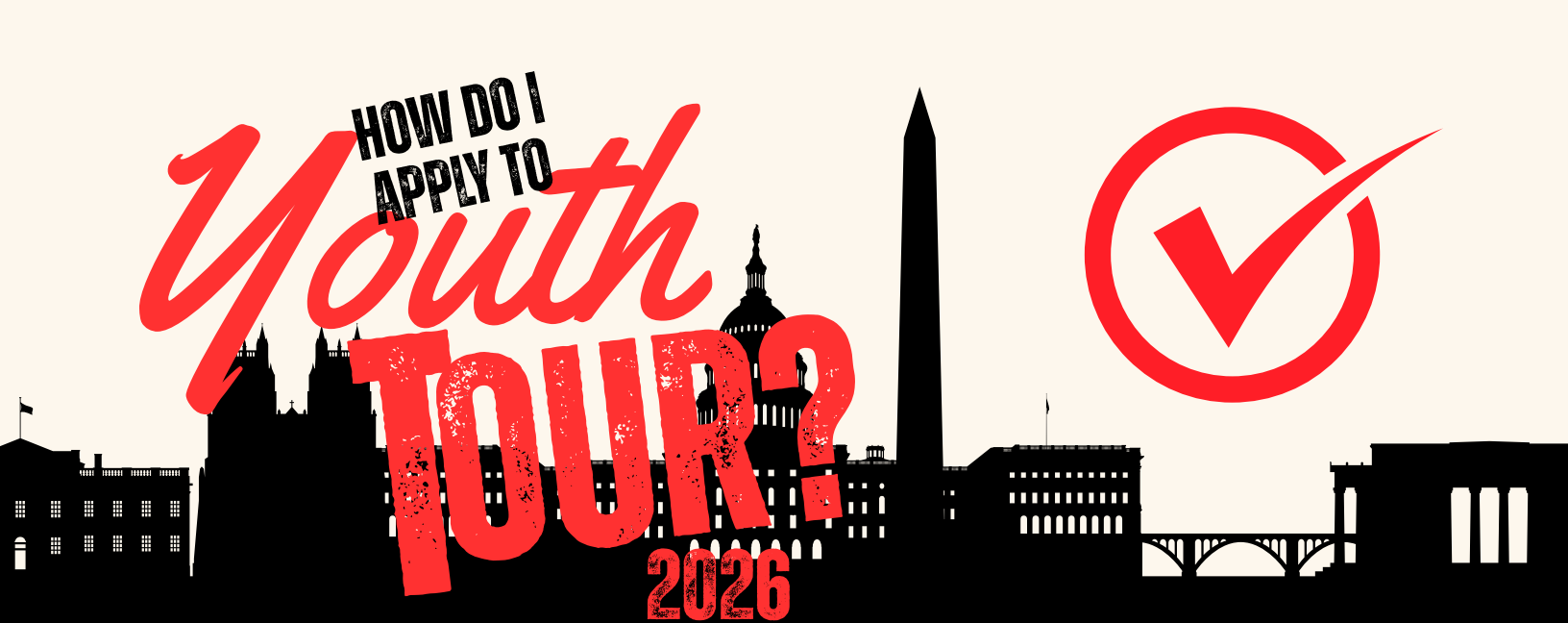
→ **ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR?**

→ **DO YOU WANT TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON ,  
D.C. FOR FREE?**

→ **ARE YOU LOOKING TO GROW YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS  
WHILE STRENGTHENING YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION?**

**READY FOR AN ADVENTURE?** THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INVITES HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS TO JOIN THE RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR ESSAY CONTEST, WHERE SIX LUCKY STUDENTS WILL WIN A WEEK-LONG, **ALL-EXPENSES-PAID** TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. YOU'LL EXPLORE THE CAPITOL, STAND IN AWE OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS, AND LEARN HOW GOVERNMENT, LEADERSHIP, AND COOPERATIVES WORK —ALL WHILE MAKING MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME!





**WRITE A 250-500 WORD ESSAY ABOUT OUR PROMPT.**



**THE PROMPT:** "IT'S 2026, FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE AS A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL, WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE AMERICA'S GREATEST CHALLENGE(S) WILL BE IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS, AND WHAT WOULD YOUR SOLUTIONS BE?"

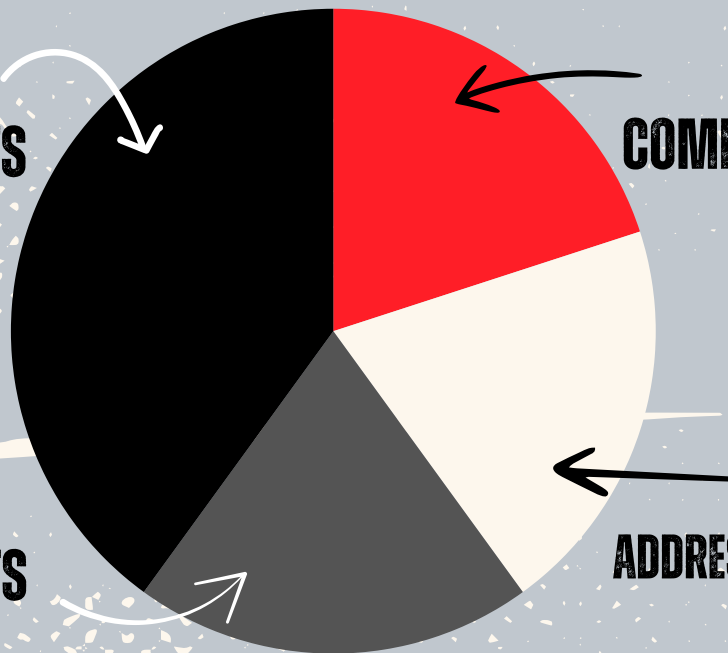
**GRADING CRITERIA: 100 POINTS POSSIBLE**

**CREATIVITY 40 POINTS**

**COMPOSITION 20 POINTS**

**GRAMMAR 20 POINTS**

**ADDRESSED TOPIC 20 POINTS**



# Youth Tour?

# 2026

JUDGES FROM NEIGHBORING COOPERATIVES WILL SCORE YOUR ESSAY BASED ON THE ESTABLISHED GRADING CRITERIA. THE JUDGES' SCORES WILL THEN BE COMPILED TO DETERMINE YOUR FINAL SCORE. ALL JUDGING DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

THE **TOP 12** SCORING ESSAYS WILL ADVANCE TO THE **FINAL ROUND**. IN THIS ROUND, STUDENTS WILL TAKE A 50-POINT TIMED TRUE/FALSE QUIZ AND PRESENT THEIR ESSAYS IN FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE AND A PANEL OF THREE JUDGES. SCORES FROM THE QUIZ AND THE PRESENTATION WILL BE COMBINED TO DETERMINE THE **SIX WINNERS OF THE YOUTH TOUR TRIP**. THE SIX RUNNER-UPS WILL EACH RECEIVE A **\$200 GIFT CARD**.

## → RULES AND REGULATIONS

ALL ESSAYS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **JANUARY 23, 2026**. WE PREFER ESSAYS TO BE **MAILED** OR **HAND DELIVERED** TO EITHER THE LINN OR BRAZITO OFFICE. ESSAYS SUBMITTED BY EMAIL SHOULD BE SENT TO

[TWANKUM@THREERIVERSELECTRIC.COM](mailto:TWANKUM@THREERIVERSELECTRIC.COM)





# Youth Tour?

# 2026

## RULES AND REGULATIONS CONTINUED...

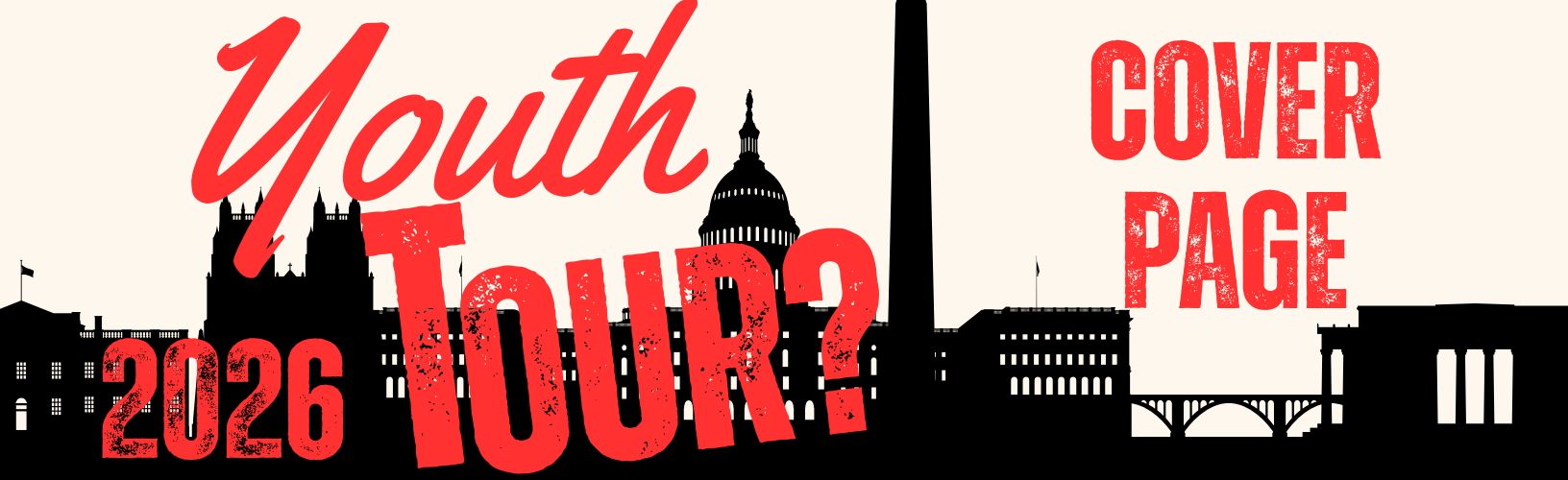
**STUDENTS MUST BE HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND CURRENTLY RESIDING IN OR ATTENDING SCHOOL IN THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S SERVICE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE TRIP. STUDENTS CAN NOT BE CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN OF CURRENT THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC BOARD MEMBERS OR EMPLOYEES.**

**ALL ESSAYS MUST INCLUDE THE ATTACHED COVER PAGE. THIS COVER PAGE SHOULD INCLUDE THE STUDENT'S NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, EMAIL, CELL PHONE NUMBER, HIGH SCHOOL, AND THE GUARDIAN'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER.**

**ALL ESSAYS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**

**TWELVE FINALISTS WILL BE CHOSEN TO APPEAR AT THE FINAL JUDGING EVENT, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 2026 AT OUR MAIN OFFICE IN LINN, MISSOURI. FROM THESE FINALISTS, SIX WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED TO ATTEND THE 2026 YOUTH TOUR. THE SIX RUNNER-UPS WILL EACH RECEIVE A \$200 GIFT CARD.**

**THE JUDGES' DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**



## THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EDITION...

**THE PROMPT:** "IT'S 2026, FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE AS A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL, WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE AMERICA'S GREATEST CHALLENGE(S) WILL BE IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS, AND WHAT WOULD YOUR SOLUTIONS BE?"

THREE RIVERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
ATTN: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST  
PO BOX 918  
LINN, MO 65051

**FIRST AND LAST NAME:**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**CELL PHONE NUMBER:**

**NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL:**

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S NAME:**

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S PHONE NUMBER:**

**PRINT THIS FORM AND ATTACH ESSAY- DEADLINE IS JANUARY 23, 2026**