



Congress shall make no law **respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;** or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; **or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,** and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

# Students! *Win cash prizes!*

## Oklahoma's 2015 *First Amendment Essay Contest*

**Oklahoma high school students**—grades 9 to 12—are invited to enter the *2015 Zach Taylor First Amendment Essay Contest*, sponsored by Freedom of Information Oklahoma.

**For this year's essay**, pick one of the freedoms guaranteed in the First Amendment (speech, press, religion, assembly, or government petition) and write about its importance to our way of life.

Students are encouraged to do factual research on the topic, but to write creatively and personally, rather than write a report. **Entries should be about 500 words, typed, double-space.**

### **Each entry must include the following:**

- Student's name
- Name of student's school
- Name of student's teacher
- Name of student's principal
- Student's mailing address
- Contact phone number
- Student's personal e-mail address  
(if student has one)

**Cash prizes will be awarded to winning essays.** First prize is \$300, second place will receive \$200, and third place will win \$100. Seven students will receive honorable mentions and iTunes® gift certificates.

**Cash prizes will be awarded on November 4** at the 2015 First Amendment Congress at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

**All entries must be received by October 9.**

### **E-mail entries to:**

Bill Young, Public Information Manager  
Oklahoma Department of Libraries  
Bill.Young@libraries.ok.gov

**For more information about the contest,** please contact Bill Young at (405) 522-3562 or (405) 370-3750