High-Impact Civic Education Projects: A Guide for Donors

Prager University
Sherman Oaks, CA
Annual budget: $23 million
President: Dennis Prager
833.772.4378
prageru.com

Free to Choose Network
Erie, PA
President and CEO: Robert Chatfield
814.833.7140
freetochoosennetwork.org

Great Hearts Foundation President:
Daniel Scoggin
602.438.7045
greatheartsamerica.org

College Bound: Reaching America’s Top Students

The College Board influences civic education nationwide through two Advanced Placement exams: AP U.S. History and AP U.S. Government and Politics. The AP History framework was improved in 2015 following strong criticism from historians. It connects primary sources, through key concepts, to seven general themes in nine historical periods. The AP Government framework engages five themes: Foundations of American Democracy, Interactions Among Branches of Government, Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, American Political Ideologies and Beliefs, and Political Participation. Students must learn fifteen Supreme Court cases and nine foundational documents, including the Constitution. For full credit, AP Government students also must complete a political science research project or an applied civics project.

Top Classical and Charter School Approaches to Civics

The Great Hearts Academies network of nearly 30 public charters in Arizona and Texas takes a classical liberal arts approach to K-12 education, including Great Books education, focus on ideas of truth, goodness, and beauty, and promotion of personal and civic virtue. The Institute for Classical Education aims to serve Great Hearts and more than 500 other K-12 classical schools across the country through higher education partnerships. Understanding America’s core documents and principles is a common priority for classical schools, including a number of charter networks. Please contact the Roundtable or the Institute for Classical Education for information on leading schools and networks in your region of interest.

Great Hearts Academies
Phoenix, AZ
602.386.1871
San Antonio, TX
210.888.9475
Annual budget, all schools and programs: $140 million
Chief Academic Officer of Great Hearts America and Director of the Institute for Classical Education: Robert L. Jackson
classicaleducation.institute

Unique Civic Education Programs for Young Americans

Several organizations run excellent civic education programs for America’s youth, though short-term programs often lack follow-up alumni activities, peer education take-home materials, education materials for parents or the adults who run the programs, or other connections to next steps in a student’s