

Premier's Spirit of Democracy 2022/23 Competition

Helpful resources



PSoD student insights

The following resources were developed by a PSOD 2021/22 winner to assist future students in their applications for the program. These videos are a helpful starting point to understand the competition and get a first-hand glimpse at what the study tour may look like:

- [What is PSoD?](#)
- [The Application Process](#)
- [PSoD Vlog](#)

Student-led classroom resources: Civics and Citizenship

The following resources were developed in collaboration with Victorian students through a co-design process with the VicSRC and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). The resources cover key civics and citizenship themes, including:

- [Active civic participation](#)
- [Citizenship](#)
- [Media](#)
- [Policy](#)
- [Voting](#)

Source documents to help your research

The following resources may help you to get started on your research and prepare your competition entry. If you use these links in your entry, they need to be referenced in your bibliography alongside any other sources.

Ancient Greece ‘the birthplace of democracy’

- [Solon: Greek statesman and poet](#)
- [Cleisthenes of Athens: Greek statesman](#)
- [Fordham University: Internet Ancient History Sourcebook](#)
- [The Greeks – Educational Resources – Research Links \(pbs.org\)](#)
- [How did the ancient Greeks change the world?](#)
- [The Democratic Experiment](#)
- [Viewpoint: Would Athenian-style democracy work in the UK today?](#)
- [History of Democracy – Behind the News](#)
- [Civics and Citizenship – BTN Special](#)

Democracy in Australia

- [About Parliament](#)
- [Parliamentary Education Office](#)
- [Australian Electoral Commission](#)
- [Museum of Australian Democracy \(MoAD\)](#)
- [Democracy Rules](#)
- [High Court Documentary](#)
- [The Uluru Statement from the Heart](#)
- [Changemakers](#)
- [Trust and Democracy in Australia: Democratic decline and renewal](#)
- [Social Cohesion Insights: 02: Participation, politics and diversity](#)

Democracy in Victoria

- [How Parliament works: What is Parliament?](#)
- [Victorian Electoral Commission](#)
- [Passport to Democracy](#)
- [Aboriginal Change Makers](#)

Democracy around the world

- [United Nations Global Issues: Democracy](#)
- [International IDEA – Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance](#)
- [National Democratic Institute](#)
- [Democratic Decay & Renewal](#)
- [Democracy Index 2020: In sickness and in health?](#)
- [openDemocracy](#)

Media

- [Vote Compass](#)
- [RMIT ABC Fact Check](#)
- [Articles on Democracy](#)
- [Big Deal TV \(ATOM Study Guide\)](#)
- [Ms Represented with Annabel Crabb](#)

Quotes for inspiration

The following quotes are from leaders and changemakers on their views of democracy and its importance. You might like to use these as inspiration or research a leader and consider their experience, achievements and opinion when preparing your competition entry.

‘The real power belongs to the people.’

Greta Thunberg, Swedish Environmental Activist

‘... I always describe the movement as an ecosystem. You know, in the forest, the birds, the worms, the trees, they all serve their own unique purpose. They work together and they can’t replace each other, but they work in harmony with each other. So, I would say find what you’re already good at...because we need artists in this movement, we need people who know about technology in this movement, we need organizers, we need writers, we need all of the different talents in the movement. So, I’d say find what you already do, what you’re already good at, and apply that...’

Jamie Margolin, American climate justice activist and co-executive director of Zero Hour

‘Let us make our future now, and let us make our dreams tomorrow’s reality.’

Malala Yousafzai, Education and women’s rights activist

‘For me, success and my work should always be connected to the community. Making sure that I’m continuing to support and uplift—even if it’s not my own people—anyone who is oppressed, anyone who is in need or being subjugated. That’s my job.’

Thandiwe Abdullah, co-founder of Black Lives Matter Youth Vanguard and co-creator of the Black Lives Matter in Schools program

‘When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.’

Malala Yousafzai, Education and women’s rights activist

‘The answers to these questions are pretty obvious: diversity matters,’ he said. The administration of justice was advanced by having judges who represented Australia’s diverse communities and their life experiences.’

Justice Lincoln Crowley, Australia’s first Indigenous Supreme Court Judge

'It is not our diversity which divides us; it is not our ethnicity, or religion or culture that divides us. Since we have achieved our freedom, there can only be one division amongst us: between those who cherish democracy and those who do not.'

Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa and anti-apartheid activist

'Democracy is a process, not a static condition. It is becoming, rather than being. It can be easily lost, but is never finally won.'

William H. Hastie, First African American Federal Judge in the United States of America

'Everything that comes out of a city is shaped by society's beliefs... So, if cities are systems that continue to leave people out, we have to reshape these systems.'

Dr Victor Pineda, President of World ENABLED and Disability Rights Advocate

'No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.'

Winston Churchill, Former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Soldier and Writer

'Change will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.'

Barack Obama, Former President of the United States of America

'I am an activist because I know I am supposed to have control of every aspect of my life – and I don't.'

Aretha Brown, 1st female Prime Minister of the National Indigenous Youth Parliament

Previous PSoD student competition entries

- [2019/20 Student Entries](#)
- [2021/22 Student Entries](#)

