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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Kansas Leadership Center Partners with Regional Chambers of Commerce to Host Inaugural National Civics Bee Competitions Across Kansas**

Wichita, Kan. – The Kansas Leadership Center (KLC), a Wichita-based nonprofit, is partnering with four chambers of commerce across Kansas to host a first-of-its-kind statewide civics competition. Participating chambers include the Hutchinson-Reno County Chamber of Commerce, the Overland Park Chamber Foundation, the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce.

At the National Civics Bee competitions in Hutchinson, Overland Park, Pittsburg and Wichita, local middle school students will participate in a first-round essay competition. Judges will select 20 students from their essays to go to the final round – a live quiz event testing civics knowledge in their community. Each finalist will be recognized and the top three winners at each competition will receive a cash prize and attend the National Civics Bee Kansas state finals the summer of 2024 at the Kansas Leadership Center.

“We are proud to host the National Civics Bee Kansas state finals. We believe that informed and active citizens make for more innovative and connected communities, which means a strong democracy, a strong economy, and a strong workforce, and that our continued prosperity depends on the strength of all three. Through the Bee, the Kansas Leadership Center fosters greater civic knowledge throughout Kansas and celebrates our civic pride,” said Kaye Monk-Morgan, president and CEO of the Kansas Leadership Center.

The winner of the National Civics Bee Kansas state finals at KLC will be invited to Washington, D.C. to compete in the inaugural National Civics Bee national championship in Fall 2024.

The essay application portal is now open through January 8, 2024. Any 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student residing in Kansas with an idea about using civics to improve their community can [learn more and apply here](#).

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**About the Kansas Leadership Center**

The Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) is a first-of-its-kind nonprofit educational organization with a civic mission, national reputation and global reach. Founded in 2007 to foster leadership for stronger, healthier and more prosperous Kansas communities, KLC receives core funding from the Kansas Health Foundation (a private, philanthropic organization). It partners with nonprofit organizations, government agencies, educational institutions, businesses and communities to build cultures that are healthy, productive and well-positioned to make measurable progress on daunting challenges and emergent opportunities. KLC Press publishes leadership books and The Journal, a nationally recognized, award-winning civic issues magazine.

Over the past 15 years, KLC has built a strong and respected institution in Kansas designed to deliver leadership development and culture change at unparalleled scale. Now, organizations across the country and around the world look to us to provide resources and consultation to support their own aspirations for mission-driven leadership education. Learn more at [www.kansasleadershipcenter.org](http://www.kansasleadershipcenter.org).

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Carrie Lindeman

316-393-1076

[carrie@lindemancollective.com](mailto:carrie@lindemancollective.com)