

CIVIC ED. IN THE NEWS

Last month, PACE published a series of essays called "Bridging Civic Divides," examining how to create healthier civic discourse that allows for "authentic debate and disagreement" while being "empowered by differences." In three short essays, PACE fellow Decker Ngongang explores the ways philanthropy can support complex, multifaceted discourse that acknowledges power inequities and goes beyond flattened calls for civility.

New York's civic education task force recently recommended that the Board of Regents create a "seal of civic readiness" for high school students who demonstrate "mastery in civics knowledge and participation in the civics process." The task force also recommended that the state education department define civic readiness and create a civics capstone project where students identify issues in their communities and work towards solving them. The Board will vote on recommendations in the spring.

A new report reviews civic education research and policy in all 50 states to map the current civic education space, highlight potential challenges, and provide first steps towards a shared understanding and practice of civic learning. With funders including the Hewlett Foundation and the Koch Foundation, the report is the first publication in a larger project to identify gaps and create connections in the civic education field.



TX CIVIC EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the January edition of the Civic Education Newsletter! As we transition to active membership in the Texas Civic Education Coalition, led by iCivics, we will continue to send out our monthly newsletter. Please see our last update for more details on this change, and stay connected through this month's announcements:

1. As students return to school, check out CDF-Texas' [resource guide](#) for educators and activists working to empower youth civic education and engagement. Make sure to also read and share the [full report](#) on youth voter suppression.
2. The YMCA Texas Youth and Government State Conference is looking for volunteers! The Youth and Government civics education and leadership development program helps teens increase their political awareness and understanding of social action. The conference will be held Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 in Austin. Learn more and volunteer [here](#).
3. Click [here](#) to add someone to or unsubscribe from our mailing list. Want to see your announcement in next month's newsletter? Contact **Maggie Stern** at mstern@childrensdefense.org.

