Stim Bullitt Civic Courage Scholarship Judging Rubric: Participants are asked to describe and analyze an act of civic courage by an individual or identifiable group of individuals in Washington State, and to address the following questions: why this act constituted civic courage; how this act impacted our community, region, or state; and the risks (professional, political, and/or personal) associated with this action. Use the rubric to guide your essay writing on the worthiness of the subject, content, and persuasiveness.

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Thesis and main points	• Compelling intro, grabs reader's attention • Thesis is clear and concise, and directly addresses prompt	• Thoughtful intro • Thesis is clear and directly addresses prompt	• Introduces topic, but without clear sense of purpose • Thesis present but unclear and/or does not clearly address prompt	• Intro absent or fails to show understanding of topic • Thesis unclear or not present
Organization and Style	• Argument flows logically and coherently • Smooth and elegant prose, with varied and interesting sentences • Compelling conclusion shows serious reflection and thought on issues, explores implications of ideas presented	• Argument flows logically • Competent, clear prose • Conclusion shows thought and reflection on issues	• Reader can follow argument, but lacks flow or logic is unclear • Some issues with clarity of expression • Conclusion present but mostly a summary, lacking reflection	• Difficult to follow argument • Prose at times difficult to understand • Conclusion either absent or fails to show understanding of issues
Use of Sources	• Uses at least 3 varied sources, properly paraphrased and quoted • Sources and quotes seamlessly integrated to support argument • Quotes included to illustrate & support ideas	• Uses at least 3 varied sources, properly paraphrased and quoted • Sources and quotes integrated into argument • Quotes included to illustrate & support ideas	• Uses at least 3 varied sources, but there may be issues with quality of source • Somewhat awkward integration of sources/quotes • Quotes included to illustrate & support ideas	• Lacks 3 sources or sources lack credibility • Lacks quotations and/or proper paraphrasing • Unclear how quotes support ideas
Development of Ideas	• Provides thoughtful, in-depth definition of civic courage and makes clear connections between that definition and individual/group chosen • Provides substantial evidence to support choice of individual/group • Analysis of evidence clearly, logically, and persuasively supports assertions	• Provides definition of civic courage and connects that definition to their choice of individual/group featured • Provides evidence to support choice of individual/group • At least some deeper analysis of evidence with solid reasoning that supports assertions	• Basic definition of civic courage provided, but may be weak or unclear how that definition relates to featured individual/group • Evidence presented, but at times either skimpy or minimally explained in relation to main argument	• Lacks definition of civic courage or it is weak • Explanations and logic difficult to follow • Connections between ideas are not articulated • Evidence is thin or lacks explanation
Conventions	• No errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling • Citations and Works Cited page complete and correctly formatted (preferably, MLA)	• Very few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling • Citations and Works Cited page mostly correctly complete and correctly formatted (preferably, MLA)	• Basic conventions followed, but with some errors in grammar, mechanics and/or spelling • Citations and Works Cited page show errors in completion or format (preferably, MLA)	• Numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling • Missing or incorrectly formatted citations and Works Cited Page