### “Local Letters for Global Change” Writing Contest Rubric

**Submit:** [www.pulitzercenter.org/lettercontest](http://www.pulitzercenter.org/lettercontest)  
**Deadline:** Friday, November 16, 2018 at 11:59PM EST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>4-Exceptional</th>
<th>3-Accomplished</th>
<th>2-Developing</th>
<th>1-Beginning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Organization** (__/8) | - Uses standard letter format  
- Information is organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer’s message  
  (see template for a suggested structure) | - Mostly uses standard letter format  
- Organized in a way that mostly articulates the writer’s message  
  (see template for a suggested structure) | - Somewhat uses standard letter format  
- Organized in a way that somewhat articulates the writer’s message  
  (see template for a suggested structure) | - Does not use standard letter format  
- Not organized in a way that clearly articulates the writer’s message  
  (see template for a suggested structure) |
| **Content** (__/20) | - Addresses a specific government official  
- A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized accurately, concisely, and with appropriate citation to support the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer  
- A clear, specific connection is made between the global issue and the writer and/or their local community  
- A persuasive argument is made for the importance of the issue, both internationally and locally  
- A persuasive argument is made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue) | - Addresses a specific government official  
- A Pulitzer Center news story is summarized accurately and mostly supports the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer  
- A clear connection between the international issue and the writer and/or their local community is made  
- A somewhat persuasive argument is made for the importance of the issue, both internationally and locally  
- An argument is made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue) | - Addresses a specific government official  
- A Pulitzer Center news story is referenced that partially supports the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer  
- An argument is made for the importance of the issue internationally and/or locally  
- An argument is made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue) | - Addresses a specific government official  
- A Pulitzer Center news story is not referenced to support the explanation of a global issue that concerns the writer  
- Does not connect the international issue and the writer and/or their local community  
- An argument is not clearly made for the importance of the issue internationally and/or locally  
- An argument is not clearly made for what the government official receiving your letter should do (a proposed solution, or an idea for drawing more attention to the issue) |
| **Language** (__/8) | - No spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter’s clarity  
- Thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader | - Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter’s clarity in one or two instances  
- Thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader | - Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter’s clarity in several instances  
- Some thoughtful use of language to persuade the reader | - Spelling and grammar errors reduce the letter’s clarity throughout  
- Unclear use of language to persuade the reader |

Total: ____________/36