

MTI Essay Contest (Grades 6-12)

RETHINK YOUR RIDE



The Mineta Transportation Institute Essay Contest invites students, grades 6-12, to propose and explore a solution to a problem centered around the 2022 theme of "Rethink Your Ride."

In the United States, nearly **70%** of students travel to school by car. And yet, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports that light-duty vehicles like cars make up **57%** of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the U.S. transportation sector, which itself is the largest contributor of national GHG emissions. People across the globe are increasingly forced to grapple with unprecedented **typhoons, wildfires, floods, and extreme heat**. In fact, the **New York Times** called the summer of 2022 "**A Summer of Climate Disasters**." Reexamining U.S. car culture, cutting back on fossil fuel-reliant transportation, and increasing our use of more sustainable means would help mitigate some of the most dangerous effects of climate change.

Rethinking your ride could help save our planet.

**Two winners will be selected:
one from grades 6-9 and one from grades 10-12.**

\$500

Grades 6-9

\$1000

Grades 10-12

Details & Submission: <https://transweb.sjsu.edu/Essay-Contest>

Submit by January 6, 2023 at 11:59PM PT

Questions? Contact Alverina Weinardy at alverina.weinardy@sjsu.edu