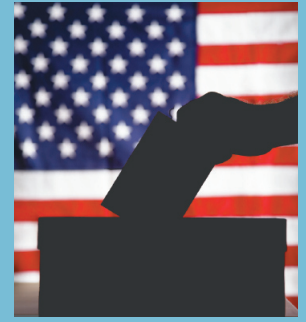


# BALLOT BOX BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF KIDS VOTING USA MARCH 2010



## KVUSA NEWS

### New Agreements & Dues

KVUSA has distributed the 2010-2011 affiliate agreements as well as the 2010 due statements. Please print off two copies, sign and return them to the national office. Then an executed copy will be sent back to you. Remember, if you return your contract and fee by March 31st, you may reduce your 2010 fee by 5 percent. If you have any questions, please email [rwillis@kidsvotingusa.org](mailto:rwillis@kidsvotingusa.org).

### KV Mecklenburg to participate in Project Ignite

KV Mecklenburg was selected to participate in Project Ignite, a special project of NPower. Since November, Kids Voting Mecklenburg has been part of a social media collaboration group, learning about best practices from field experts and working alongside leaders from other agencies including Girls Scouts, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Lymphoma Leukemia Society and others. Executive Director Amy Farrell is available to share information, answer questions or help other Kids Voting organizations looking into building a social media presence.



BE ONE OF THE FIRST FIVE TO EMAIL [RWILLIS@KIDSVOTINGUSA.ORG](mailto:RWILLIS@KIDSVOTINGUSA.ORG) ON THE FIRST DAY OF SPRING AND RECEIVE \$10 OFF YOUR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION!!

## “Even shrimps like us will vote”

Kids Voting Mesa County (KVMC) was awarded \$1,400 by the Grand Junction Lions Club in January. As part of the grant, KVMC is required to have a float in the Lions’ annual parade and bake at least five cakes for its fundraising carnival. This year’s parade theme was Mardi Gras. A middle school band played on the back of the float while little “shrimp” sat in a bowl of gumbo. More shrimp followed, carrying signs that read, “Even shrimps like us will vote someday”.

KVMC will use the grant money to purchase a laptop and printer, which in turn will support the hiring of an Administrative Assistant. This will be a first for the organization. KVMC has a small, but rent-free office (offered by the local school district) that also is shared by a school district employee who is in the office 2 to 3 days per week. There is no more room for a third person, so the laptop will be used by either the executive director or administrative assistant from locations other than the office to help get the jobs done. KVMC is very excited about the possibilities inherent in the hiring of additional staff.



## Preview for the 2010 KVUSA Conference

The conference committee has been working diligently on creating a jam packed agenda that will take your organization to the next level. The 2010 Conference will be held at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown on June 17th - 18th. The event will begin at 2 p.m. on Thursday and conclude at 3 p.m. on Friday. Some of the topics include national update, technology, board development, issue discussions (logo, brand, *Civics Alive!*) and programming (advisory boards, engaging teachers, etc.). To maximize your experience, bring members of your board. And if you are new to the organization, don’t worry, we will have sessions just for you. For more information about the hotel click on the link: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mcidt-kansas-city-marriott-downtown/>. Remember when making reservations, let them know that you are attending the Kids Voting USA conference. Finally, the Kansas City Royals are in town on Thursday night playing Houston. Join us and watch America’s favorite pastime. More details will be distributed soon!!

## Links to stories in the news

Click on the links below to view recent stories about Kids Voting & voting:  
[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2010/03/07/youth\\_and\\_politics/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2010/03/07/youth_and_politics/)  
<http://kidsvotingkansas.blogspot.com/>

# KVUSA Calendar

Here is a list of upcoming KVUSA events and deadlines:

- March 18th: KVUSA Board Meeting in D.C.
- March 20th: Be one of the first 5 to email [rwillis@kidsvotingusa.org](mailto:rwillis@kidsvotingusa.org) and receive \$10 off your conference registration.
- March 31st: Last day to receive early bird discount on affiliate dues
- April 5th: KVUSA Board Conference Call
- May 3rd: KVUSA Board Conference Call
- May 5th: Early bird discount for conference registration expires
- May 27th: Cut-off day to receive special room rates for the KVUSA conference
- June 7th: Final day to register for KVUSA conference
- June 17th -18th: KVUSA Conference
- June/July: Orders for Election supplies collected



## Co-Founder of KV Central Florida Recognized by Justice Clarence Thomas

Silvia Ibanez, co-founder of KV Central Florida, was complimented by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas in February.

Justice Clarence Thomas delivered the Marshall Criser Distinguished Lecture at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. During this presentation, a student asked how justices can be persuaded. In the Justice's response, he gave an example about a lawyer who argued her own case, knew the record and won. The lawyer Thomas was complimenting is Silvia Ibanez, the petitioner in her 1994 case against the state Business and Professional Regulation Board. By a 7-2 vote, the court ruled that the board action violated her First Amendment rights and the CPA and CFP designations were not misleading.

Ibanez, who now practices transactional, tax and estate law in Kissimmee, was pleased to hear about Thomas' comment.

"Like everything in life, preparation is the key - hard work and preparation," she told the *Daily Business Review*.



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