

# The Post-Standard

Clinton Square, P.O. Box 4915 Syracuse, New York 13221-4915

---

CHRIS IVEN • YOUTH EDITOR

(315) 470-2248 (voice) • (315) 470-3081 (fax)

CIVEN@SYRACUSE.COM • BLOG.SYRACUSE.COM/VOICES

Dear high school student,

Thanks for your interest in writing for The Post-Standard. If you can write well and you have something to say, I'd love to give you a chance.

The best place to start is a **MyTake** essay. It's a well-read feature that runs Tuesdays on **VOICES**, a page of news and opinion by, for and about teens. It also runs on the VOICES Web site: <http://blog.syracuse.com/voices>. A MyTake essay allows you to express your views and observations to a wide audience, it enriches our coverage and it gives you a great reason to do some polished, thoughtful essay writing.

A submitted article should be 400 to 500 words long. It can be a persuasive piece about an educational, social or school-based issue that somehow affects you; a humorous take-off on something affecting young people generally; or a personal story that might illustrate a larger issue about life as a student or teen-ager. If it's important to you and you feel a need to let people know about it, it's probably a good topic.

Essays can be mailed to me at the following address: The Post-Standard, P.O. Box 4915 Syracuse, 13221-4915. Better yet, essays can be e-mailed to me at [civen@syracuse.com](mailto:civen@syracuse.com). Please include your age, school, year in school, and telephone number.

This is a competitive process; only the best will get published. Some topics are better than others, of course, so if you want to discuss article ideas before you begin writing, please call me at 470-2248.

If your essay is selected, we'll talk about how to illustrate it. I'll either ask you to submit a photo or we'll schedule a time for a staff photographer to take a picture of you.

There is no deadline, but articles that arrive sooner have a better chance of being published by the end of the school year. Essays may be edited to make them shorter, to make the wording more clear, or to correct factual errors. I want your opinions to come through loud and clear.

If you have questions or comments, please call me or send me an e-mail. To find out what issues your peers are writing about, check out the VOICES page in The Post-Standard on Tuesdays, or visit <http://blog.syracuse.com/voices>.

Thank you, and good luck.

Sincerely,

Chris Iven

Youth Editor  
The Post-Standard