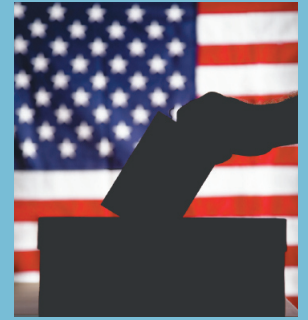


# BALLOT BOX BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF KIDS VOTING USA JULY 2011



## BOOK CLUB

The July/August book is Anything You Want by Derek Sivers. All the details are listed at the end of the newsletter. KVUSA hopes that you will read the book and join the online discuss on the national website.

## CONFERENCE

Join us in Las Vegas on Oct. 20th and 21st for the 2011 Conference!!

*\* Join members of the Conference Planning Committee for a no host dinner at the resort on Wednesday, October 19th.*

### Thursday, October 20th

**9am:** Quick Welcome

**9:15am:** Leadership Training presented by DeVee Dietz and Dr. Helen Usera, Chiesman Center for Democracy

**11:30am:** Break for Lunch

**1pm:** Official Welcome, KVUSA Update

**1:30pm:** DCD Update

**2:30pm:** Anything is Relative - Various Kids Voting leaders manage discussions on different topics

**4:30pm:** KidsVention Presentation

**5pm:** Dismissal

### Friday, October 21st

**8:45am:** Meet in Lobby

**9am:** KidsVention

**Noon:** Conclusion of KidsVention

**12:30pm:** Wrap of Conference

## “Growing Up With Leadership” Banquet a Major Success

The annual Kids Voting Civics Celebration Banquet featured a new venue, an impressive keynote address, great entertainment and follow-up appointments for “Hot Dogs with Top Dogs”.

Nearly 220 guests attended the event at the Mesa State College’s new

College Center. Some of the entertainment included the award-winning Fruita Monument High School Jazz Band and an inspirational speech about the importance of being involved in the community delivered by Mesa State students Nick Lopez and Jeremy Watson.

A unique feature of the banquet involves a frenzy of bidding and buying to have a “Hot Dog with a Top Dog”. Winners this year “won” lunches with the Grand Junction Police Chief John Camper, Mesa County School District 51 Superintendent Steve Schultz, District 54 Representative Laura Bradford and others.



## July Educator of the Month

KVUSA is pleased to announce that **Mark Matthews** is the July Educator of the Month. Mr. Matthews is a history and government teacher at Big Walnut High School in Sunbury, Ohio. His activities have included not only coordinating the high school voting, but securing and training high school students who run the elementary and middle school polling places on Election day. Mark Matthews has been instrumental in initiating and coordinating a program with the Delaware County Board of Elections wherein Big Walnut High School students train with the regular precinct poll workers and on Election day one student is at each precinct in the school district as an observer.

Kids Voting USA truly appreciates the work and passion Mr. Mark Matthews demonstrates for our program.

## 20th Anniversary

Written by: Dr. Diana Carlin, KVUSA Board Chairman

**T**ime flies. How often do we hear that said, especially as we get older (notice “er” not old)? In the case of Kids Voting USA, a 20-year celebration is less than six months away. I remember the beginnings of the national project in 1992 and I joined the Kansas board shortly after the election. Since the pilot project began with the Bush, Clinton, Perot presidential election, we’ve seen as many as 30 states participate at any one time and we’ve served approximately 4.5 million students. The fact that we are planning a 20th anniversary celebration itself speaks volumes about the need for an organization such as Kids Voting.

Because this is an important milestone, the Kids Voting board wants to do something special to highlight our past achievements and to set the course for the next 20 years. To that end, we are planning a symposium and gala fundraiser in Washington, DC in the spring 2012. The symposium will explore a variety of issues related to youth civic engagement and highlight Kids Voting successes. The gala will be a way to celebrate, gain attention for the organization, and provide a source of new funds for 2012 expansion and program improvements. We are in the early planning stages so if you have a suggestion for a speaker for the symposium, please let us know. We will share more information at the annual meeting in October.

We also encourage all of you to celebrate in your own ways as affiliates. Anything we do to gain positive attention for Kids Voting in any one of our locations benefits the entire network.

## KV Central Ohio Supports Redistricting Contest

**E**very ten years, after the decennial census, legislative districts for the U.S. House of Representatives and for state legislatures are re-drawn to account for population shifts. The goal, from a civics perspective, is to come as close as possible to the ideal of “one person, one vote.” The goal, from a political perspective, is to deliver the highest possible number of legislators from the party that controls the redistricting process.

At the final Kids Voting Youth Council meeting of the school year on May 19th, Secretary of State Jon Husted, Ohio’s chief elections officer, presented the Youth Council members with Certificates of Commendation for their service.

Secretary Husted is a former state senator who had proposed redistricting reform in Ohio, and he led an extensive discussion about redistricting. After the discussion,

the Kids Voting Youth Council of Central Ohio decided to support the Ohio Campaign for Accountable Redistricting.

The Ohio Campaign for Accountable Redistricting is a project of the Ohio League of Women Voters, Ohio Citizen Action, and Midwest Democracy Network. It will give individual private citizens the opportunity to draw state legislative and congressional district maps, using current census data and on-line mapping tools. There are cash prizes for the best maps, which will be judged on the criteria of Preserving County Boundaries, Compactness, Competitiveness, and Representational Fairness. Winning maps will be submitted to the Ohio Apportionment Board and the Ohio General Assembly.

The goals of the competition are:

- To demonstrate that an open process based on objective criteria can produce fair legislative districts in Ohio.
- To encourage citizen involvement in the redistricting process and help educate Ohioans about this process.
- To identify fair and accountable redistricting maps for submission to the Ohio Legislature and the Ohio Apportionment Board for their consideration.
- To serve as a basis for future reform measures designed to promote a non-partisan, open, and accountable redistricting process.

Visit the website: <http://www.drawthelineohio.org/>



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dbcinks@yahoo.com

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Creative Loafing  
martypetty@mac.com

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javier.aldape@scripps.com

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KV Western New York

kjbiggie@buffalo.edu

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KV Southeast Pennsylvania

rocoe@comcast.net

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KV Tampa Bay

bobby@kvtb.org

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Cornerstone Government Affairs, LLC  
ggonella@cgagroup.com

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Publisher Emeritus

Governing

pharkness@governing.com

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Executive Director

Reynolds Journalism Institute

University of Missouri

johnsonpamela@missouri.edu

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V.P./Information Technology

Gannett Co., Inc.

MMORNEAU@gannett.com

### **Ron Thornburgh**

Senior VP of Business Development

NIC Inc

ront@nicusa.com

### **Rachel Willis**

Executive Director

rwillis@kidsvotingusa.org

KVUSA is managed by **KPA.**



## Kids Voting USA Book Club

Join KVUSA Affiliates in the KVUSA Book Club. We will pick one book every two months and discuss it on the KVUSA Book Club Discussion Board or via the KVUSA Affiliate list serve (log into the new website to post to the discussion board).

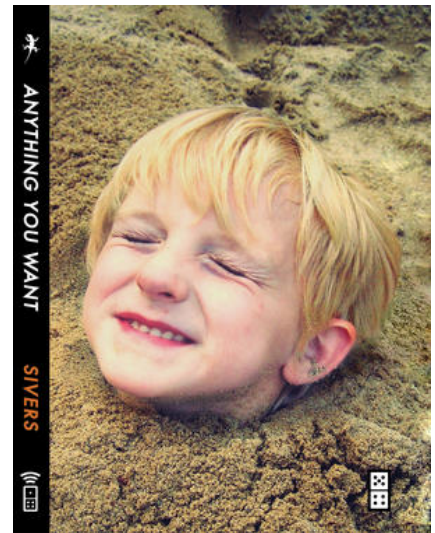
**July/August 2011**

**Book Title:** *Anything You Want*

**Author:** Derek Sivers (<http://sivers.org/about>)

**Website:** <http://sivers.org/a>

**Cost:** Amazon - \$8.99; Kindle - \$7.99. (Amazon Link: [http://www.amazon.com/Anything-You-Want-Derek-Sivers/dp/1936719118/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1309801986&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Anything-You-Want-Derek-Sivers/dp/1936719118/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1309801986&sr=8-1))



**About:** Best known for creating CD Baby, the most popular music site for independent artists, founder Derek Sivers chronicles his “accidental” success and failures into this concise and inspiring book on how to create a multi-million dollar company by following your passion. In *Anything You Want*, Sivers details his journey and the lessons learned along the way of creating CD Baby and building a business close to his heart. “[Sivers is] one of the last music-business folk heroes,” says Esquire magazine. His less-scripted approach to business is refreshing and will educate readers to feel empowered to follow their own dreams. Aspiring entrepreneurs and others trying to make their own way will be particularly comforted by Sivers straight talk and transparency -a reminder that anything you want is within your reach.

***“Building a Stronger Affiliate Community”***