Real journalism through community engagement.

Use Quill and Scroll and TheChisel.com to turn your ideas into solutions.

DO YOU:

- Need a meaningful Q&S chapter activity this semester?
- Hope to solve a problem in your community or school?
- Want to interact with policy-makers and journalists?

Quill and Scroll has partnered with TheChisel.com to help you develop skills in reporting on, writing about, and devising solutions for a problem in your school or hometown.

What's TheChisel.com?



Inspired by journalist and statesman Benjamin Franklin, TheChisel's new ChiselLabs is a pan-partisan online platform where you can post a policy proposal or community initiative. It's an easy-to-use tool to help you -- citizens and students alike -- build your own initiatives to get feedback from your peers, members of the public and TheChisel's professionals; improve your proposals; garner votes and support; and get your proposals into the hands of decision-makers.

Join experts from the nation's top think tanks and policy organizations -- Brookings Institution, American Enterprise Institute, Brady Campaign, NRA, US PIRG, National Taxpayers' Union and others -- who've already published on TheChiseI.com!





How does it work?

USE THE PLATFORM IN TWO WAYS:

1) As Quill and Scroll chapters, you are encouraged to create a project that supports your community and the society's goals; proposing a solution to a community problem is a great way to do that.

2) As journalists, you have an ideal opportunity to use ChiselLabs' online platform to crowdsource, get feedback, and revise your ideas. Once you've gone through the publishing and feedback cycle on TheChisel.com, you can then start to plan coverage in your publication. Plus, TheChisel.com's fun tools guide you through the process of creating your own customized, visually-compelling proposal and URL, which you can share with the public and on social media.

What's in it for you?

PRIZES and INTERNSHIPS

We're offering to proposal-winning Quill and Scroll chapters **Amazon.com gift cards**, which you can use to celebrate your successes or buy supplies for your chapter:

- The first three chapters to post proposals and add five substantive comments to others' proposals earn \$100 each;
- The proposal with the best visuals: \$100;
- The proposal with the most votes: \$100;
- The proposal with the best sourcing and documentation: \$100
- The best overall proposal: \$250; AND
- Two students will be eligible for Summer Internships with TheChisel.

What are the guidelines?

- Proposals must be complete and meaningful to be eligible.
- The best proposals will demonstrate multi-stakeholder perspectives, credibility, and rigorous analysis.
- A chapter may post as many proposals as it wishes.
- At least 10 eligible proposals from Quill and Scroll chapters must be submitted for prizes to be awarded.
- Together, TheChisel team of policy analysts, writers, and journalists, and Quill and Scroll's executive director will choose the winners.

How do we get started?

Check out the great proposals on TheChisel's website, created by public policy professionals and the public. Use these as models or inspiration! Maybe you want to start a recycling program in your high school? Reconstitute your student government by-laws? Change your school district's vacation policy? Or, go wider: propose a town-wide, statewide, or nationwide initiative!

Visit ChiselLabs.com and start thinking about a problem that needs to be solved. Then start developing a solution and begin doing the research needed for it, whether you choose to approach it as a chapter activity only, or whether you plan to produce journalism around the topic as well.

Did you say "webinar"?

To help you submit, elicit feedback for, and revise your proposals, we will conduct two live webinars introducing TheChisel. We will tape the sessions and make them available if you are unable to make the live sessions.

Webinars will be **Monday, Oct. 1**: 4 p.m. ET/ 3 p.m. CT/ 2 p.m. MT/ 1 p.m. PT, and **Wednesday, Oct. 3**: 7 p.m. ET/6 p.m. CT/5 p.m. MT/ 4 p.m. PT.

Deadline for **submission of draft proposals is Oct. 10, 2018**. Deadline for posting final proposals, getting community feedback and engagement, and voting **is Nov. 15, 2018**. Get started today.

Each proposal will receive 20 minutes of personalized feedback from TheChisel professionals. This can be done via Skype or video conference.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Q&S Executive Director Jeff Browne at jeffrey-browne@uiowa.edu or to TheChisel's Deborah Devedjian at ddevedjian@thechisel.com.

"Freedom of speech is a principal pillar of a free government." Benjamin Franklin

About Quill and Scroll

How to use TheChisel

Founded in 1926

For 92 years, Quill and Scroll International Honor Society for High School Journalists has honored the best work done by student journalists around the world. Whether it's through membership in our society, our contests, our evaluation service, our scholarships or our pins and graduation paraphernalia, we salute great scholastic journalism at our charter schools. Start or renew your charter today at quillandscroll.org.

11,413 Chapters

More than 500,000 students have been inducted into the society in its history. Those students have come from all 50 states, every U.S. territory and 29 foreign countries. The local chapter is at the heart of Quill and Scroll. The member belongs to an international organization. Membership widens a student's horizon, increases journalistic perspective and gives the prestige of membership in an honorary scholastic society.

Scholarships

Quill and Scroll provides a variety of scholarship opportunities for students and advisers. Student scholarships, with one exception, are available to only those students from Q&S local chapters, as is the adviser scholarship.



QUILL AND SCROLL HONOR SOCIETY Adler Journalism Building, W113 University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242 Phone: 319-335-3457

You have a great proposal to share!

Do you want your important policy initiative spread far and wide? It's easy! And YOU make it fun.

1. Check out this quick video to see how TheChisel works for the national experts. You'll use the same tool to create your own proposals at the local, state, or federal level!

2. Take a 2-minute tour of the site. See how your proposal will show up on TheChisel.com and how your friends, family, and community can help you "chisel" your proposal to make it shine!

3. Create your account and your profile page. Upload your picture, tell us about yourself, and choose your favorite state picture!

4. Ready? Set? Start inputting your proposal at thechisel.com/chisel-labs.

5. Need ideas to make your proposal more effective? Check out TheChisel's "Bill of Writes" for helpful hints

6. Add pictures, videos, and other visuals to help your proposal shine! For fun ideas on proposal design, check out TheChisel's proposals on:

Campaign Finance Reform Farm Subsidies or Corporate Income Tax Reform

7. Share your proposal on TheChisel.com with your friends, family, community members, and lawmakers to generate feedback and votes on your proposal to increase your impact!

So get started now!



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