

MISSION

The mission of the Madison-Lincoln Initiative is to support the sustainability of America's democracy by advocating for the radical overhaul of civic education in America and by fostering robust democratic engagement in schools and colleges across the United States.

VISION

MLI seeks to fulfill its mission in the following ways:

1. By building a membership of at least one hundred thousand educators and educational supporters who endorse our mission;
2. By influencing the adoption of rigorous democratic engagement curriculum standards for grades K through 12 in all public schools in America;
3. By influencing the adoption of rigorous democratic engagement requirements for students at all public colleges in America;
4. By hosting an annual Democracy Summit in which educators and other participants share ideas for fostering democratic engagement with each other;
5. By publishing a monthly e-newsletter highlighting best practices in teaching democratic engagement, and
6. By working directly with schools and colleges to help them foster democratic engagement at their campuses.

VALUES

1. We are devoted to upholding a representative democracy, and not a dictatorship, as our nation's form of government;
2. We insist that all citizens, and especially all elected officials, are bound to defend and protect the US Constitution;
3. We insist on maintaining high standards of decency and integrity for all elected officials;
4. We are committed to the rule of law and insist that no person is above the law;
5. We believe that all citizens have a duty to become informed and engaged participants in our democratic republic;
6. We believe in the relentless search for truth, and we abhor lies and distortions;
7. We believe in the need for civil discourse in politics and in general society;
8. We believe in the value of diverse political viewpoints and that a pluralistic democracy must protect tolerance for a wide variety of differing viewpoints;
9. We abhor violence as a way to resolve differences or to impose one set of viewpoints upon others; and

10. We are committed to fostering democratic engagement through education on a non-partisan and non-profit basis.