The First Amendment Museum is a relatively new, non-partisan museum in Augusta, Maine, whose mission is to promote the practice and understanding of the First Amendment to the US Constitution. Our goal is to inspire communities in Maine and around the nation to live and love the five freedoms found in the First Amendment - religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition.

One of the ways we do this is through cooperative programming with civic and cultural organizations, schools, and universities. Though not named specifically in the First Amendment, voting is one of the most important forms of political free speech and expression we have. As activist Loung Ung said, “voting is not only our right - it is our power.” And indeed, the First Amendment protects many activities that are related to voting, such as expressing political views, signing petitions, and spending money to influence voters. We believe informed voters, especially young or new voters, who are more involved with local politics, and candidates who are more in touch with the people they represent, will be better prepared to work together to achieve their common goal of creating better communities.

The First Amendment Museum invites You to participate in “RepresentME,” a distance-learning-based, mediated question and answer session between local representatives and their constituents. The purpose of this program is to advance democratic literacy by providing an opportunity for Maine high school students to engage in civil discourse. By partnering with us, you can help your students be more involved in the democratic process, be more aware of who their representatives are, and learn to use their voices in a productive, civil way. Our larger goal is truly the goal of the First Amendment itself: to help Americans create a more perfect union.

Please let us know if you would like to participate in this program by emailing mnosbisch@firstamendmentmuseum.org.