



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

PATRIOT'S PEN

WRITTEN ESSAY COMPETITION



\$5,000

NATIONAL FIRST-PLACE GRAND PRIZE

Over **\$55,000** awarded in national prizes and scholarships every year!

PP WINNER 2025



2026-2027
THEME

"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"



ELIGIBILITY

Open to students in grades 6-8 enrolled in a public, private, parochial school, or home-study program in the U.S. and its territories.



FORMAT

Write a 300-to-400 word essay (+/- 5 words) in English on this year's theme.

- ✓ No color or graphics
- ✓ No personal identifiers in the essay
- ✓ Entry form is the cover sheet

Submit to your local VFW Post.



PRIZES

Awarded at the Post, District, State and national levels. State winners share in \$55,000 of national awards. National winners receive at least \$500, with a \$5,000 first-place national award.



DEADLINE

All entries must be submitted to your local VFW Post by

OCTOBER 31, 2026



SCAN TO ENTER

YOUR LOCAL POST

POST 1197

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ENTRY FORM & DETAILS: <https://bit.ly/3KbL15N>