



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 9761

ENTRY FORM & DETAILS: <https://bit.ly/4nJVuon>