



Brainerd VFW, 309 So. 6th St.

Brainerd, MN 56401 Details at:
<https://www.brainerdvfw.org/pp>



OFFICIAL STUDENT ENTRY FORM 2019-2020 MN PATRIOT'S PEN COMPETITION
MUST BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS
****Please include a photo of the student****

Name: First, M.I., Last _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

(____) _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____ Date of Birth (day, month, year) _____

Grade in School _____ Essay Word Count _____ School Name, City, State _____

Name of Teacher _____ Teacher Email (If applicable) _____

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTEST RULES

Signature of Student Participant _____ Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT AND STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN

Parent/Guardian PRINTED Name _____ Date _____ (____) _____

Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone _____

Parent/Guardian's E-mail _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

2019-20 Theme: "What Makes America Great"

What are the rules?

- Students in 6th, 7th and 8th Grade may enter
- Essay length: 300-400 typewritten words.
- You must write your own essay.
- All essays should be typewritten in English with no color or graphics and cannot be less than 300 words or greater than 400 words in length. (Essays under or over these word amounts will be eliminated.) Every word is counted regardless of length. The essay title (theme) or added footnotes do not contribute to the word count.

Deadline:

The completed essay, entry form, and picture of student must be in the hands of the VFW Post Chairman by midnight **OCT. 31, 2019**. In no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay. Do not put your name on your essay. The entry form is your essay's cover sheet. Secure the Official Student Entry Form with a staple or other fastener on top of your essay. Essays must be written exclusively for this competition. Use of the same essay for other competitions will result in disqualification. Contestants are allowed to enter only once (one Post competition). Contestants found in violation of this rule will face elimination from the competition and will be required to return any and all prize money awarded or received.

The essay must be a contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. The approach to the Patriot's Pen theme should be positive and clearly focused. Poetry is not acceptable. Quotations may be used sparingly if plainly identified wherever used. A contestant's teacher, counselor or parent may check the essay for punctuation, grammar and/or spelling, but the content must remain the contestant's. Contestants will be judged on the basis of their essay alone and are not required to present the essay orally. All essays become the property of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The VFW retains non-exclusive rights to use your essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.