



Americanism ESSAY CONTEST

Grades 3-12 are invited to write an essay! Winners are awarded \$50, plus a donation made in student's name to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.

ESSAY TITLE: "What does America the Beautiful mean to me?" (regarding veterans & our military)

Students (grades 3 to 12) explore the fundamental rights and freedoms we enjoy today. Each year's contest has a different theme; ***one student in each category per division is awarded a prize. There is a category for students with special needs.***

Word Count by Grade

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| 3rd & 4th Grade | 150-250 |
| 5th & 6th Grade | 250-300 |
| 7th & 8th Grade | 350-400 |
| 9th & 10th Grade | 450-500 |
| 11th & 12th Grade | 450-500 |

**Complete the attached form along with your
essay by February 28, 2025.**

ELK RIVER AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 112
525 Railroad Drive. Elk River MN 55330



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
2025 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.

Essay Title: *"What does America the Beautiful mean to me (regarding veterans and our military)?"*

Essay Classes:

| Class | Grade Level | Word Requirement* |
|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| I | 3 and 4 | 150-250 |
| II | 5 and 6 | 250-300 |
| III | 7 and 8 | 350-400 |
| IV | 9 and 10 | 450-500 |
| V | 11 and 12 | 450-500 |
| VI | Students with special needs | Word count should correspond with student's grade level. |

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Essay Checklist:

- Class competing in _____
- Sponsoring ALA unit _____
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay _____
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit _____

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2025