



VFW Scholarship Programs: Patriot's Pen

2017-2018 Theme

"America's Gift to My Generation"

Sponsored by

**VFW Post 1177, Loudoun County, Va.
Entry Deadline
Oct. 31, 2017**

Patriot's Pen, a youth-essay writing contest is a nationwide competition designed to foster patriotism by giving students in grades 6, 7 and 8 the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. Annually, more than 131,000 students participate in the contest.



The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed this program on the [NASSP National Advisory List of Contests and Activities for 2016-2017](#).

Contestants write a 300-400 word essay based on an annual patriotic theme. The first-place National winner receives a \$5000 cash award and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. The top state winners compete to win one of 46 national awards totaling \$46,000.

How to Enter: Loudoun County Virginia students should first draft their essay based on this year's theme: **"America's Gift to My Generation"** then submit their essay, along with the required entry form by 31 Oct 2017, to:

VFW Post 1177, Attn: Patriot's Pen,
401 Old Waterford Rd., Leesburg, Va. 20176.

Further directions are listed on the entry form and can be downloaded at:
<http://www.vfw1177.org>

(For Students residing outside of Loudoun County Virginia, please go to this site to find a VFW Post near you!)

<https://www.vfw.org/oms/findpost.aspx>

For more information or questions, contact project1@vfw1177.org Attn: PP

Lindi Compton, an eighth-grade student, was named the 2016-17 Patriot's Pen first-place winner. Her essay on the theme, "The America I Believe In," won her a \$5,000 award. Lindi was sponsored by VFW Post 5813 and its Auxiliary in Greensburg, Ky.



Go to <http://www.vfw1177.org/VFWDC2017/> to see Lindi deliver her winning essay!