As American Legionnaires, we fully believe that education is the cornerstone upon which the future of America is built. Education becomes the first requisite of good citizenship and the relationship of The American Legion to Pennsylvania citizens is of prime importance as a means of keeping us a free civilization.

Our approach to supporting solid educational principles is direct and positive. We agree with the current PA Department of Education initiative of "writing across the curriculum" and reward the efforts of involved students through our annual essay scholarship program.

Since the inception of the Department of Pennsylvania state Essay Contest in 1935, The American Legion has awarded well over $500,000 in scholarships, while local American Legion Posts, counties, Districts and Sections have also offered suitable awards and prizes for their respective best essay winners as well.

Through the annual Department of Pennsylvania American Legion Essay scholarship contest, students are provided an opportunity to showcase their talents and abilities in English by using originality, accuracy and research as evidence, while learning that the responsibilities and duties of good citizenship can be both rewarding and fun.

For more information on participating in the Department of Pennsylvania American Legion Essay Contest, please call (717) 730-9100 or visit www.pa-legion.com.

The American Legion Essay Committee

Chairman: ***Michele Deems***
PO Box 413
Nemacolin, PA 15351
(804) 867-7194

Sectional Vice Chairmen:

East: **Harry Wynn, III,** 59 Thomas Jefferson Rd
Lehighton, PA. 18235 (570) 386-2188

West: ***Billie J. Powers,*** 1087 S. 8th St
Dubois, PA 15801 (404) 210-2538

Central: **Linda Klutas,** 500 Stoney Creek Road
Dauphin, PA 17018 (717)921-8660

Inter-District Coordinators:

1-5: **Aaron Campbell, Jr.,** 60 Hawthorne Lane
Willingboro, NJ 08046 (609) 871-5618

8-9-10: **James Heslop,** 3436 Green Leaf Dr
Mount Joy, PA 17552 (717) 725-0247

11-12-15: **Mike Welch,** 95 Green Valley Street
Hallstead, PA 18822 (607) 427-8986
mdwelch21@echoes.net

13-14-30: **Harry Wynn III,** 59 Thomas Jefferson Rd
Lehighton, PA 18235 (570) 386-2188

16-17-18: **Albert Hess,** 1009 Buffalo Road
Lewisburg, PA 17837 (570) 524-4367

19-22: **Norlynn John,** 7430 Nyesville Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202 (717) 860-9203

20-21: **Stephen Foor,** 1056 Black Bear Lane
Bedford, PA 15522 (814) 847-2077

23-28-29: ***Billie J. Powers,*** 1087 S. 8th St
Dubois, PA 15801 (404) 210-2538

24-25-31: **Tom Shumaker,** P O Box 176
Clarksville, PA 15322 (724)-377-0632

26-27: **Theodore Minich,** P. O. Box 265
Hawthorn, PA 16230 (814) 365-5521

32-33-36: **James Page,** 209 Jasper St
Pittsburgh, PA 15211 412-427-5917

(Questions on Essay Contest rules or procedures can be directed to any committee member)

"How would our founding fathers respect the American Flag today?"

2019 PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION 84TH ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

FOR GRADES 9-12

The American Legion
Department of Pennsylvania
PO Box 2324
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2324
(717) 730-9100
www.pa-legion.com

AMERICAN LEGION POST 101
142 N. HANOVER ST.
CARLISLE, PA 17013

2019 ESSAY CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS

This year's Essay Contest title is:
HOW WOULD OUR FOUNDING FATHERS RESPECT THE AMERICAN FLAG TODAY?

To locate a post near you, go to www.legion.org & click on find a post and enter your zip code.

Any student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 in a public, private or parochial school, or who is home schooled in Pennsylvania is eligible to participate.

Students MUST prepare essays without assistance and provide a statement to that effect on the last page.

All essays MUST have a **COVER PAGE** containing the following:

- The Essay Title
- Student's Name, address, telephone, & email address (if applicable.
- Teacher's verification of Student's Grade Level.
- School Name and Address if applicable.
- Sponsoring American Legion Post Number, Name & Location.
- Parent or guardian's name, address and phone number.
- Student's signature.

ALL essays MUST **be no less than 500** words and **no more than 1,000** words.

Typewritten essays are preferred but not required.

No reference shall be made, for or against, any political candidate or political party affiliation.

The title MUST appear on page one (1) of the essay, as well as the cover page.
Essays shall be judged on the following:

- **Proper English structure.**
- **Accuracy.**
- **Extent of information.**
- **Originality** - *Any material not original must be cited in a bibliography for the information of the judges, stating publication, volume, page, date, publisher and author. Anything cited from the internet must include a verifiable internet address such as: http://pa-legion.com/about/our-history/*

DEADLINE DATES BY OR BEFORE:

1. **JANUARY 18, 2019 - Essays must be submitted** to a sponsoring or **LOCAL** American **LEGION POST**. Each school may select 1 winner for each American Legion Post in their school district.

2. **FEBRUARY 1, 2019** - The local American Legion Post's winning essay shall be selected and forwarded to the **local DISTRICT American Legion Essay Chairperson** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory.

3. **FEBRUARY 22, 2019, -** The "District's" winning essay shall be forwarded to the appropriate **INTER-DISTRICT ESSAY COORDINATOR** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory)

4. **MARCH 15, 2019** The "Inter-District's" winning essay shall be forwarded to the Department of PA Essay Contest **SECTIONAL VICE CHAIRPERSON** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory).

5. **APRIL 5, 2019** the "sectional's" winning essay shall be selected and forwarded to the **PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT** ESSAY CHAIRPERSON, **Michele Deems**,

6. **APRIL 19, 2019** - The Department Essay Chairperson shall have arranged for qualified judges who will select this year's Department of Pennsylvania's Essay Program.

1. **PRIZES TO BE AWARDED**
   The Department of Pennsylvania State Essay First Place Winner will be awarded a $3,500, a plaque and a trip to the PA American Legion Convention in July to read the winning essay to the assembled delegates.

2. The Second Place Winner will receive a $3,000 and a plaque.

3. The Third Place Winner will receive a $2,500 and a plaque.

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