



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

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Attention: EB Stanly Middle School, Wallace Middle School, Glade Middle School and Cornerstone Christian Academy.

Abingdon, VA. September 14, 2018 – Commander Dickie Kiser of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Post 1944, Abingdon VA, announced the kick-off of the VFW's annual Patriot's Pen youth essay competition. Middle school students in grades 6-8 in this area have the opportunity to compete and win thousands of dollars in national awards.

Let me first say, thank you for assisting Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1994 with this years Patriot's Pen Essay contest. We ask that you advise the students to please read and follow the essay contest rules. Failure to follow the rules is an automatic disqualification of the essay. We will be collecting the Essay's on October 29, 2018 to be judged at the post level. We will inform the schools of the contest winners.

The VFW enacted the Patriot's Pen competition in 1995 to encourage young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society by composing a 300- to 400-word patriotic-themed essay. The theme for the <2018-19> competition is "Why I Honor the American Flag."

Students begin by competing at the local Post level. Post winners advance to District competition with District winners advancing to the state competition. State first-place winners compete for their share of thousands of dollars in awards, and the national first-place winner is awarded \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Each year, more than 125,000 students participate nationwide. Deadline for student entries is October 31, and interested students and teachers should contact Dawn Kuhn, Auxiliary President, 804-909-5792 or kuhn@comcast.net VFW Member Jessica Decloux at 760-704-3712 for more information.

FOR DETAILS VISIT: <https://www.vfw.org/PatriotsPen>.

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ABOUT THE VFW: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and oldest major war veterans' organization. Founded in 1899 and chartered by Congress in 1936, the VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from active, Guard and Reserve forces. With nearly 1.7million VFW and Auxiliary members located in nearly 6,400 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans' service organization is proud to proclaim "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS" than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans' services, legislative advocacy and military and community service programs. For more information or to join, visit our website at www.vfw.org

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