

2024-2025 Official Entry Form Patriot's Pen Competition

Must Be Completed by All Contestants

Name: First, M.I., Last Matthew James Neal
Address 870 Sunset Pl.
Monroe GA 30656
City, State, Zip
Phone 770 337 9060 Email carsonneal.cn@gmail.com
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy) 03/12/13 Grade in School 10th Essay Word Count 300
School Name, City, State Monroe Country Day School, Monroe, GA
Teacher's name and Email (if applicable) Pam Arnold p Arnold@monroe.School

To Be Completed by Student's Parent/Guardian
(Required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed) Carson Cheney
Parent/Guardian Signature [Signature] Date 11/1/24
Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone 770 337 9060
Parent/Guardian's Email carsonneal.cn@gmail.com

What Are the Rules?

- You must write your own essay.
- All essays should be typed in English with no color or graphics. 300 - 400 words in length (+ or - 5 word max). Every word is counted regardless of length. The essay title (theme) or added footnotes do not contribute to the word count.
- In no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.) Do not put your name on the essay. The entry form is your essays cover sheet. Secure the Official Student Entry Form with a staple or other fastener on top of your essay. Contestants are allowed to enter only once each year if otherwise eligible (one Post competition).
- The essay must be contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. Inappropriate use of ChatGPT or other AI tools is not allowed. 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 Veteran's of Foreign Wars. The VFW retains non-exclusive rights to the use of your essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.
- At any time during the contest additional participant personal information (i.e. SSN, photo, etc.) could be requested by the VFW.

I Have Read and Understand the Contest Rules

* Matthew J. Neal 10/28/24
Signature of Student Participant Date

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level Patriot's Pen Competition.

Post Commander/Chairperson Signature _____ Post# _____
VFW Auxiliary President/Chairperson Signature (If applicable) _____
Post Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
VFW Post Email _____
No. of participants _____ No. of winners _____
Amt. of Post/Aux. scholarships awards \$ _____
Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (Banquet, Pins, etc.) \$ _____

To Be Completed by the VFW District

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Patriot's Pen Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department.

District Chairperson Signature _____ Dist. # _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
() _____
Phone _____ Email _____

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Patriot's Pen Department Competition and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairperson Signature _____
() _____
Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

The winner ☒ has been ☐ will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

Local VFW Post Information:

Contact: _____
Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____
Alternate Contact: _____
Phone: _____ Best Time To Call: _____

