

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

2025-2026 AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST



"America at 250 Years: What Does it mean to Me?"

Eligibility: *Students, grades 7 through 12*

Deadline: *December 1, 2025*

Requirements: *350 words or less about "America at 250 Years: What Does it Mean to Me."*

Website: *www.fra.org/essay*

**Grand Prize
\$1,500**

**18 National
Awards, Regional,
and Local Prizes**

For information about the contest, contact:

School Counselor: _____

FRA Essay Chairman: Shipmate PNC Paul Gunther

FRA Branch: Triangle Branch 182

Telephone: 1-240-338-0929, Email: fra.branch.182@gmail.com



FRA AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST RULES

- All entrants shall be students in grades seven through twelve (or equivalent).
- Entrants must be sponsored by a branch of the Fleet Reserve Association or a unit of the Ladies Auxiliary, or by an FRA Member-at-Large.
- The essay shall be on the theme designated and shall not exceed 350 words. The essay theme title must appear on the essay as written.
- **The essay shall be legibly written or typed on one page and one side of the paper.**
- The entrant name must not appear on the actual essay, but on a separate sheet as listed below.
- Each entry must be accompanied by a separate sheet [Cover Sheet] stating: the entrant's name; address; zip code; telephone number; school grade (or equivalent); name of school or the words "home schooled;" number of words in essay; and the sponsoring branch/unit or sponsor's name.
- The entrant must sign the Cover Sheet stating that no 'Artificial Intelligence' [AI] was used in writing the essay.
- A student may submit only one entry each year.
- Entries submitted to branches shall be submitted to the Branch Americanism-Patriotism Committee. If mailed entry must be postmarked not later than December 1, for judging at the branch level. If emailed, entry must be sent by December 1 to the Sponsoring Branch.
- Entries sponsored by membership at large members shall be submitted to the national chairman and forwarded to an appropriate branch for judging in their respective grade group. If mailed, all entries shall be postmarked not later than December 1st. If emailed to the national chairman, it must be sent by December 1st.
- **The Internal Revenue Service requires that any participant who receives \$600 or more will be issued a Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable. Winners must provide their social security numbers to the FRA upon request. W-9 required for national level winners.**





FRA AMERICANISM ESSAY COVER SHEET

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent Telephone Number: _____

Parent E-Mail Address: _____

Name of School: _____ Grade: _____

Number of Words in Essay: _____

AP Chair Name/Branch/Unit: _____

Phone Number _____ Email: _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Entrants Signature Stating no Artificial Intelligence [AI] used in writing the essay.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Permission: I understand that my student is participating in FRA's Americanism Essay Contest and authorize FRA to publish photos of him/her if he/she should receive recognition for this entry. W-9 required for national level winners

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Note: Please type or write legibly.

PLEASE USE THIS FORM ONLY – NO OTHER ACCEPTED

