



# 2025-2026 COMPETITION

## PATRIOT'S PEN AND VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

**INDIAN ROCKS VFW POST 10094**

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

### **PATRIOT'S PEN**

- Open to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Submit a 300 - 400 word essay
- This year's theme: **"How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?"**
- Each first-place post winner receives \$250, state winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins \$5,000!

### **VOICE OF DEMOCRACY**

- Open to students in grades 9-12
- Submit a 3 - 5 minute audio/video essay prepared on this year's theme, with a completed 2025-2026 entry form to the post.
- This year's theme: **"How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?"**
- Each first -place post winner receives \$500, state winner receives a minimum of \$1000 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins a \$35,000 scholarship paid directly to the winner's American university, college or vocational/technical school.