

# Encourage your kids to enter patriotic essay contest

The Department of Energy Veterans Advisory Committee and the Hanford Safeguards and Security organizations have teamed with the Hanford Community Diversity Council, the Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and the VFW ladies' auxiliaries to provide an opportunity for children of Hanford employees to participate in a patriotic essay contest.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and its ladies' auxiliary organizations have a longstanding national commitment to foster patriotism, promote Americanism and support educational activities in communities just like the Tri-Cities all over the country. The DOE Veterans Advisory Council is providing this opportunity in conjunction with its annual Veterans Day celebration.



The Veterans Advisory Council and the Hanford Community Diversity Council have created a special "Hanford" category within the VFW's annual essay contest. Children of Hanford employees will have an opportunity to win a prize in the Hanford category as well as in the local, district, state and national categories of the VFW contest.

The contest has two age categories: seventh and eighth graders, and ninth grade through 12th-grade students. Contestants must be enrolled in seventh through 12th grades in public, private or parochial schools or in home-study programs in the United States, its territories or possessions.

In the Hanford category, the deadline for both age groups is Oct. 31. The Hanford contest will award first, second and third prizes in each age group. Entries can be mailed to Jim Spracklen at A7-50 or Guy Schein at A7-75. Entries can also be dropped off at the Federal Building to either Spracklen in room 703 or Schein in room 760.

The tragedies of Sept. 11 have brought home the need to encourage patriotism in our children, now more than ever before. Please encourage your children to participate and show their patriotism and American spirit. ♦

The following are brief rules for the contests. The entry forms and specific details are available on the VFW Web site, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), or you can contact Jim Spracklen or Guy Schein.

## **Youth Essay Contest** (seventh and eighth grades)

- Theme: "Is Freedom Really Free?"
- Length: All entries should be typewritten in English and cannot be less than 300 words nor more than 400 words. Every word or number is counted regardless of length.
- Contestants may not identify themselves, their schools, their cities or states in their essays.

## **Voice of Democracy Contest** (ninth through 12th grades)

- Theme: "Reaching Out to America's Future"
- Length: All essays should be delivered as oral presentations of at least 3 minutes in length, but not more than 5 minutes in length, recorded on good-quality cassettes.
- A written script of the essay or presentation is also required.
- Contestants may not identify themselves, their schools, their cities or states in their essays.