



## Veterans Day Essay Contest 2019

Sponsored by The Historical Society of Orange Park P.O. Box 08,  
Orange Park, FL 32067 Email: info@ophistory.org

### I. Contest Label Form and Publicity Release Form:

All entries must be accompanied by both a fully completed "Publicity Release Form."

II. Contest Theme: The theme for the Essay Contest is to explain the importance of celebrating Veterans and Veterans Day. Each Essay Contest student, using his or her own words and creativity, will tell a personal story about how veterans have made an impact in their life, neighborhood, or town.

III. Contest Deadline: All essay entries must be received by September 28, 2019. The Grand Prize winners will be notified by October 24, 2019. Entries not meeting deadlines will be disqualified.

IV. Contest Grade Categories and Topics: The contests will be evaluated in the following grade-related categories.

Grade Level	Word Limits	Topic	Prize Offered
4th –6th	300 -500	What is Veterans Day?	\$50
7th –8th	400-700	Why do Veterans deserve our support, respect and understanding?	\$75
9th -12th	500-1000	Why do you think it is important to celebrate Veterans Day?	\$100

V. Essay Specifications: Essay entries can be electronically written (Word or Docs) or handwritten neatly on white 8½" X 11" lined paper and must be in English. All essays must be the work of only one (1) student, consisting of the student's own words, thoughts, and creativity. Electronic submissions are accepted. Teachers may choose to scan all their entries per school to submit as one PDF. Note: Upon submission, all essays become the property of the Historical Society of Orange Park.

Eligibility: The contest is open to students in Grades 4-12 who are enrolled in public and private schools and home-schooled students living in Clay County.

VI. Judging: The decision of the adjudication panel is final. Each essay will be judged on the following criteria:

Expression of the theme (50%) Content of writing (25%) Creativity of writing (25%).

VII. Awards: A group of 5 student finalists from each of the three grade categories will be awarded a certificate of merit. The winning student from each grade category will be presented with a special plaque and a check in the following values:

Winners in each grade category will be invited to read their essays at 11:00 AM on November 11, 2019 at a Veterans Day ceremony held at Magnolia Cemetery Veterans Memorial, 1040 Kingsley Avenue, Orange Park. Students arrive 10:45 AM for the ceremony which will conclude with a reception beginning at 12:00 pm at the Historic Clarke House on Kingsley Avenue, across the street from the ceremony.

Note: The Historical Society of Orange Park assumes no responsibility for essay submissions. Winning entrants agree that Historical Society of Orange Park has the right to use, without further permission and/or compensation, their essays for promotion of Veterans Day, or any other related use. The submissions will not be returned.



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## Publicity Release Form

**PLEASE COMPLETE ENTIRE FORM AND PRINT CLEARLY.**

**Mail to:** Historical Society of Orange Park, Inc.  
P.O. Box 08, Orange Park, FL 32067

Contact: Cynthia Cheatwood (at Orange Park Junior High for school mailing)

**Email:** [info@ophistory.org](mailto:info@ophistory.org)

**Entries must be received by September 28, 2019.**

**NOTE: Please do not have student name or school identifying information on the front of the entry itself. Last names on the back of the essays are okay, to match essays with entry forms.**

### Student Information (Please write neatly, especially email addresses)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**ESSAY** Contest Eligibility: Grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

### Teacher/School Information

Homeschool, Private or Public (continue below) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Public School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the contest guidelines and affirm that this entry is in compliance with them. Entries must be original work, created by the student during the current school year, never have been published in any other medium, and the entrant must own all rights to reproduce the entries in any medium without restriction. All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the entrants'. Entry into this contest constitutes permission for the essay and author, to be photographed for publicity purposes and for the work to be reproduced in any medium without time, use or territorial limitation as long as such is for noncommercial purposes without any additional compensation to the child, teacher, parents, or legal guardians. All federal, state, and local regulations apply. Void where prohibited by law.

Signature of Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_