



PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA NEWS

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Students from Louisiana and Colorado Win Paralyzed Veterans of America Annual Veterans Day Poster and Essay Contests

Washington, DC ô Paralyzed Veterans of America (Paralyzed Veterans) proudly announces the winners of its eighth annual Veterans Day Poster and Essay Contest: Joel Martin, of Larose, LA, grand prize winner for his poster submission, and Adam Carr, of Woodland Park, CO, grand prize winner for his essay entry. Students were asked to submit posters and essays that expressed the theme ôAmerica's Veterans: Our Heroes of the Past, Present, and Future.ö

öWe congratulate Joel and Adam for their wonderful winning poster and essay entries,ö said Bill Lawson, national president of Paralyzed Veterans of America. öWe received many entries this year but these two winners truly deserve the grand prize for capturing what it means to honor our veterans.ö

Martin, a student at Holy Rosary Catholic School, in Larose, LA, and Carr, who is home schooled in Woodland, CO, will travel to Washington, DC, to attend Veterans Day ceremonies and a Paralyzed Veterans reception, where they will receive their awards.

Paralyzed Veterans launched the contest as a way to creatively and actively involve the nation's youth in celebration of Veterans Day and to promote greater awareness of America's 26 million veterans and the sacrifices they have made to ensure the freedoms we enjoy daily.

Category winners by grade were also selected. The winners from each grade category are:

- Poster Category Winner 1stö2nd Grade
Pramuditha Sithumini Madigapola, Andasol Elementary School, Northridge, CA
- Poster Category Winner 3rdö4th Grade
Keith L. Harmon, Carrie Downie Elementary School, New Castle, DE
- Essay Category Winner 5thö6th Grade
Nicole Ceperich, St. Mary's Catholic School, Boise, ID
- Essay Category Winner 7thö8th Grade
Kylie Navarro, Cab Calloway School of the Arts, Wilmington, DE

Each of these category winners will receive a special plaque, a \$100 educational gift certificate and a plaque for their school acknowledging their achievement.

To view this year's winning entries, visit www.pva.org/posteressay.

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Sixty-five years ago, Paralyzed Veterans of America was founded by a band of spinal cord injured service members who returned home from World War II to a grateful nation, but also to a world with few solutions to the challenges they faced. These veterans from the "Greatest Generation" made a decision not just to live, but to live with dignity as contributors to society. They created an organization dedicated to veterans service, medical research and civil rights for people with disabilities. And for more than six decades, Paralyzed Veterans of America and its 34 chapters have been working to create an America where all veterans and people with disabilities, and their families, have everything they need to thrive. (www.pva.org)