



City of Novi Veterans Day Essay Contest

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Attention High School Students!

Participate in our Veterans Day essay contest by choosing one of three meaningful themes to express your thoughts and appreciation for our veterans.

Select from the following themes:

1. What Freedom Means to Me

Discuss the freedoms you value most and how they are protected by veterans' sacrifices. Reflect on how different life might be without these freedoms, and why it is essential to honor those who have served.

2. Bridging Generations Through Honor

Write about how your generation can meaningfully honor veterans, not just on Veterans Day, but throughout the year. What actions, attitudes, or values help bridge the gap between generations?

3. If I Could Say One Thing to a Veteran...

Imagine a conversation with a veteran from any era. What would you most want to say, and why?

Eligibility: Open exclusively to high school students that live, work, or attend school in the City of Novi.

Submission requirements: All entries must be received by 8:00am, Monday, October 20. Submit your essays in PDF format via email to kkieser@cityofnovi.org. The subject of the email should be, "2025 Veterans Day Essay." Late submissions or failure to follow all submission and formatting requirements will result in disqualification.

Word Limit: 300-500 words

Formatting Requirements: Submit essays typed in 12-point Century Gothic font and saved in PDF format. Use the provided prompt as your title.

Originality: All submissions must be the original work of the student. AI-generated content and plagiarism are strictly prohibited and will lead to disqualification. Entries will be checked for originality to maintain the contest's integrity.

Judging Criteria: Essays will be judged on clarity, relevance to theme, originality, and emotional impact.

Prize: The contest winner will have the unique honor of reading their essays aloud at the Veterans Day Celebration on November 6, 2025. Additionally, winning essays will be included in the event's program materials. Essay reading will be at approximately 12:45 pm. The winner will be notified via email by Monday, November 3.

Judging Panel:

Justin Fischer, Mayor, City of Novi

Mike Longo, Commander, VFW Post 1519

Julie Farkas, Director, Novi Library

For More Information: Contact Kit Kieser, Older Adults Services Manager, at kkieser@cityofnovi.org.

