



2025 Veterans Day Poster and Poem Contest

Paralyzed Veterans of America Great Plains Chapter

Contest Rules and Guidelines

I. Contest Theme and Criteria

The theme for the 2025 Veterans Day Poster and Poem Contest is “*#BarriersStillExist.*” Students should draw a poster or write a poem that shows or expresses why today’s barriers to accessibility should be removed and permanently eliminated for paralyzed Veterans and the disability community at large. *Posters must include the visual/image of a wheelchair or assistive device and poems must reference the importance of accessibility and in removing everyday barriers.*

The poster contest is open to students in first through fourth grades.

The poem contest is open to students in fifth through eighth grades.

II. Contest Deadline

All poster and poem entries must be received by **Friday, October 31, 2025**. See submission guidelines below. Participants (teachers, group leaders, parents) of winning students will be contacted no later than **Friday, November 7, 2025**. **Entries that do not meet the deadline or guidelines will be automatically disqualified.**

III. Contest Grade Categories and Grand Prize Winners

Voting for the contest should be evaluated in the following grade categories:

- First and second grades category: Poster
- Third and fourth grades category: Poster
- Fifth and sixth grades category: Poem
- Seventh and eighth grades category: Poem

Please note:

- Each grade category (first and second grades, third and fourth grades, fifth and sixth grades, and seventh and eighth grades) should have a winner, so **four grade category winners overall**.
- The **poster with the most votes is the grand prize winner overall for the poster contest** and the **poem with the most votes is the grand prize winner overall for the poem contest**.

IV. The grand prize winner overall for the poster contest **should not** be a poster grade category winner. The grand prize winner overall for the poem contest **should not** be a poem grade category winner.

V. **Poster and Poem Submission Guidelines**

All posters and poems must be the work of only one student, consisting of the student's own creativity, words and/or thoughts.

Poems must be submitted in English and the maximum word count is 75.

All entries must be received by **Friday, October 31, 2025** via **at vazquez@greatplainspva.org** or by **standard mail at: Great Plains PVA, 7612 Maple Street, Omaha, NE 68134.**

Each entry must be labeled with the student's details:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Grade
- Age
- School/Teacher

Each entry must also have a completed Entry Form attached that has been signed by the student's parent or guardian.

Poster and poem entries submitted via email may be in the form of photos or scanned files (JPG, PNG or PDF formats only).

Upon submission, all posters and poems become the property of Paralyzed Veterans of America, which reserves the right to reproduce submissions, and will not be returned. By submitting entries, contest entrants (students) voluntarily assign all intellectual property rights in their creations to Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Poster and poem submissions may be posted on social media via a Facebook album and/or Twitter feed or displayed in a public space at the chapter.

Please refer to the Consent and Publicity Release Entry Form for details.

VI. **Eligibility**

The contest is open to public, private and home-schooled students living in the United States in first through eighth grades. Civic organizations, scout troops and religious organizations that work with children may also submit entries.

VII. **Judging**

Prize winners for each grade category and the grand prize winner of the poster contest and the grand prize winner of the poem contest will be determined by Paralyzed Veterans of America members.

The following criteria will be considered in determining the winners: Expression of theme, creativity, content, style and/or writing.

VIII. Prizes

- Grade category winners and their teachers will each be awarded a \$25 Target gift card.
- Grand prize winners will be awarded a plaque and a \$25 Target gift card. Their teachers will also receive a \$25 Target gift card.

IX. Miscellaneous

This contest and eligibility for becoming a winner will be void where prohibited.

Address of: Paralyzed Veterans of America Great Plains Chapter is located at 7612 Maple St., Omaha, NE 68134

Official Contest Rules: These are the official rules ("Official Contest Rules") for the Paralyzed Veterans of America Great Plains Chapter 2025 Veterans Day Poster and Poem Contest.

Agreement to Abide By Official Contest Rules: Each eligible person who enters the contest is a "Contestant." By entering the contest, Contestants hereby fully and unconditionally agree that such entry constitutes full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of the Official Contest Rules. Winning a prize is contingent upon fulfilling all requirements set forth herein. Paralyzed Veterans of America Great Plains Chapter reserves the right to change the Contest Rules at any time preceding or during the contest without prior consent or notice.

Publicity: Contest entry constitutes permission for Paralyzed Veterans of America to use prize winner names, hometowns, photographs, testimonials or other likeness and/or prize information or personal exposition (and/or any edited portion thereof) for promotional, advertising and/or publicity purposes in any media, now or hereafter known throughout the world in perpetuity, without compensation or notice to, or further consent of the prize winner to the extent permitted by law.

Release: Except where prohibited, each contestant agrees to release and hold harmless Paralyzed Veterans of America and its officers, directors, employees and agents (the "Released Parties") from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the contest or receipt or use of any prize.

Limitations of Liability: Except where prohibited, each contestant agrees that the released parties are not responsible for (a) any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by Contestants or printing errors; (b) unauthorized human intervention in any part of the contest; (c) technical or human error which may occur in the administration of the contest or the processing of entries; or (d) any injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from Contestant participation in the contest or receipt of any prize.

For questions or concerns, please refer to the Consent and Publicity Release Entry Form or contact Paralyzed Veterans of America Great Plains Chapter at vazquez@greatplainspva.org.