



a registered 501c3 organization

2025 Voices for Truth and Humanity – Essay Contest Awards Program

Program Description

The Voices for Truth and Humanity Essay Contest Awards Program was established to provide high school students with an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the Holocaust, and their understanding of society's role in fighting hate and preventing future genocides.

Program Format

The Program is open specifically to New York State High School Rising Seniors (currently Juniors). Essay submissions will be judged by a panel comprised of educators, historians, and volunteers. Winners and their parents will attend the annual **Voices for Truth and Humanity Remembrance Awards Dinner** this Fall where they will receive their awards and be recognized for their accomplishments. If a winner is not able to attend, they will provide a one-minute video acceptance speech to be played during the awards ceremony. Additionally, as contest winners will surely prove to be passionate future leaders in their communities in movements against antisemitism and all forms of hate, winners are expected for at least one academic year following the awards ceremony to be representatives of Voices for Truth and Humanity in their own locales by assisting in promoting the organization's initiatives whereby education is a means to combat intolerance. Visit www.v4th.org to learn more about the organization.

Essay Topic to be Answered (Please answer each prompt separately.)

1. What do you believe are the lessons societies should learn from the Holocaust, and how do you think those lessons are still relevant and applicable today?
2. What is the meaning and significance of the Holocaust in today's world in light of current events?
3. What inspired you to participate in this essay contest?

Your response should include personal observations or experiences. *(Essays should be a combined total between all three prompts of up to 1,000 words double spaced and submitted in both Word and PDF formats.)*

Please include the following at the beginning of your entry:

Name, Home Address, Email Address, High School Name, High School Address, High School Graduation Year, High School Principal.

A brief personal bio of no more than 100 words should be included at the end.

Winners

2 Winners and 4 Honorable Mentions will be selected. Each recipient's High School Principal will be notified of their award.

Awards

Winners will receive a \$1,000 award and certificate recognizing their accomplishment. Honorable Mentions will receive a certificate recognizing their accomplishment.

Schedule

- Essays must be submitted via email in both Word and PDF format to neveragain@v4th.org no later than **11:59pm, July 17, 2025**.
- Winners will be announced **August 22, 2025**.
- Winners will be recognized at the annual Voices for Truth and Humanity Remembrance Awards Dinner on Tuesday, **September 9th, 2025** at the Crest Hollow Country Club on Long Island.
- For questions, please contact us at neveragain@v4th.org.