



American Battle Monuments Foundation

ABMF 2025 Past is Prologue Essay Contest



Details and Application: www.abmf.org

Questions: essaycontest@abmf.org

Apply Now. Submit your essay no later than April 27, 2025

Early submissions encouraged.

Winners announced on Gold Star Mother's & Family's Day, September 28

Age Group: 16-18 Years

1st Prize: \$10,000

2nd Prize: \$5,000

3rd Prize: \$2,500

Age Group: 13-15 Years

1st Prize: \$10,000

2nd Prize: \$5,000

3rd Prize: \$2,500

Age Group: 11-12 Years

1st Prize: \$5,000

2nd Prize: \$2,500

3rd Prize: \$1,500

Choose one of these topics and explore how the sacrifice and service of those who fought in WWII is relevant in your life today.



A Day in the Life on December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor, HI

Step into the shoes of those who lived through December 7, 1941, when Japan launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Pacific fleet. Explore the perspective of one of these individuals:

- Battleship Captain
- Ship's Cook
- Army Air Corps Pilot
- Radar Crew

Describe their job, reactions on that fateful day, and their contributions to the larger story of Pearl Harbor.



The WWII Battle of Midway June 4-7, 1942

Midway Atoll, 1,300 miles northwest of Hawaii, was vital during WWII as a refueling point and became the site of a pivotal U.S. - Japan battle. The Imperial Japanese Navy spent more than a year preparing for a strategy it believed would bait the Americans to fight and lose there, giving Japan unquestioned superiority in the Pacific. On the first day of the battle, it seemed Japan had won. But in the few days that followed, America prevailed and forever changed the course of the war in the Pacific.

The American Battle Monuments Foundation is the non-profit partner of the American Battle Monuments Commission, the U.S. agency responsible for all 26 American military cemeteries and 31 monuments overseas.

Nearly 234,000 American service men and women are buried or memorialized (remains missing) at ABMC hallowed sites.