



Veterans of Foreign Wars
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For Immediate Release

**Press Release Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10125
Rancho Cordova, California**

Rancho Cordova Middle School Student takes California's Top Spot in VFW Annual Essay Contest

Sophia Trujillo, a 7th grader at Mills Middle School in Rancho Cordova, was recognized on Friday January 19th by the Veterans of Foreign Wars California Department as the First Place Winner of the 2017-2018 Patriot's Pen Essay contest. During the Department's Mid-Winter Conference Dinner Sophia was recognized for her achievement along with 14 Voice of Democracy speech finalists. Sophie's essay on this year's theme: "America's Gift to My Generation" earned the top spot out of over 1700 entries submitted.

As the Department Winner she was presented a Patriot's Pen Trophy, \$1000 Scholarship and read her award-winning essay to the audience and her family in attendance. Sophia was recognized earlier in the week by VFW Post 10125 and received a Certificate of Merit, a Patriot's Pen Medal and a \$100 Scholarship. Her entry has been submitted to the VFW National Competition, where she will compete with other students across the nation for a \$5000 Scholarship and all-expense paid trip to Washington DC.

For more information on the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest or Voice of Democracy Speech Contest contact your local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post or Tony Creel at 916-600-1105.



Sophia Trujillo receives her 1st Place Trophy and \$1000 Scholarship.