



# Palm Harbor 9/11 Memorial Essay Writing Contest

The Palm Harbor 9/11 Memorial Committee is proud to announce its 2019 essay writing contest.

**Applicants, please read the guidelines below carefully. We look forward to receiving your essay!**

## **PURPOSE**

The essay contest serves as inspiration for local students to strengthen their appreciation of the historical importance of the events of September 11th, 2001.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

All 6th - 8th grade students (school year 2019-20) in North Pinellas are eligible to submit an essay.

## **ESSAY SPECIFICS & JUDGING**

Judging will be performed anonymously by the Palm Harbor 9/11 Memorial Event Committee.

**Students must submit an original essay on the following topic:**

**"How Did 9/11 Impact Our Nation?"**

**Essays will be judged on the following essay criteria:**

- **Focus:** A clear, controlling idea, that is strongly supported throughout the essay.
- **Development:** the response is thorough and meets the length requirement (500-700 words).
- **Organization:** the paragraphs and sentences are effectively structured.

## ESSAY SPECIFICS & JUDGING (Continued)

- Originality: the essay provides a thoughtful, original reflection on the events of 9/11.
- Conventions: proper conventions of standard English grammar are followed.
- Format:
  - Essays must include a cover sheet which includes student's first and last name, age, grade level, school name, email address, and telephone number.
  - Font should be 12-point, Times New Roman, and the paper is double-spaced.
  - Sources (if used) are credited using MLA format.
- Deadline for essay submission is **Friday, August 30th, at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Essays received after the deadline date will not be considered.**
- Delivery: Essays may be submitted electronically or hand-delivered
  - Electronic delivery: [sept11essay@palmharborfd.com](mailto:sept11essay@palmharborfd.com)
  - Hand-delivery: Palm Harbor Fire Rescue, 250 West Lake Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34684

## AWARDS\*

Winners will be notified by September 6, 2019.

- First Place - \$500.00 • Second Place - \$250.00

\*Awards will be presented to essay contest winners at the 9/11 Memorial Event at Curlew Hills Memory Gardens Tuesday, September 11th. The first-place essay will be read at the 9/11 Memorial Event on September 11th.

## BACKGROUND

The Palm Harbor 9/11 Memorial Event Committee is comprised of local volunteers who are passionate about ensuring people never forget the tragedies of 9/11/01. Each year, the committee holds a memorial event on September 11th at the Curlew Hills Memory Gardens 9/11 Memorial.

This one-of-a-kind memorial has a 150-pound piece of rusted steel beam, once part of the World Trade Center Towers, as its focal point. The memorial is constructed with 30 tons of American granite and features an eternal flame at its base. Please visit [CurlewHills.com](http://CurlewHills.com) for further information and pictures from previous 9/11 events.

## QUESTIONS

For further information or questions, please contact Liz Graham at 727.683.1647 or [egraham@palmharborfd.com](mailto:egraham@palmharborfd.com)