



# 2020 HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST



Go For Broke National Education Center (GFBNEC) supports the legacy of Japanese American World War II veterans, who served their country at a time when the United States denied their civil rights. Join us in advocating for civil liberties and equality, the cornerstone of the American experience, by entering our 2020 contest.

In addition to **cash prizes**, four winners (grand prize entry from each category) will receive **two complimentary tickets\*** to our **19th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner and Auction** on Saturday, November 14, 2020, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in Los Angeles. Winners will enjoy an evening of fine dining, entertainment, and meet Japanese American WWII veterans and families.

**TO ENTER:** Submit a 300-500 word ESSAY, or a work of POETRY (3 typed pages or less) on one of the following topics:

- This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, yet the Japanese American WWII veteran experience is still relevant to our society today. Explore one of the ways this is true.
- Research one Japanese American WWII soldier, and highlight elements of their experience that are most meaningful to you.

**DEADLINE: SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020**



**PACIFIC GLOBAL**  
*Investment Management Company*

Go For Broke National Education Center is continually appreciative that **Pacific Global Investment Management Company** is once again the Presenting Sponsor of this year's contest. Their contribution is made in memory of community philanthropists Manabi Hirasaki (WWII Veteran) and Sig Kagawa. Supporting Sponsors are **Ken and June Shimabukuro** and an **anonymous donor in memory of WWII Veteran Masao "Mas" Takahashi**.

This program is not affiliated with nor endorsed by any school or school district.  
Go For Broke National Education Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Visit [www.goforbroke.org](http://www.goforbroke.org) for more information.

*See further details on back.*

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO SUBMIT

- Please select from one of the two given topics below:
  - (1) This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, yet the Japanese American WWII veteran experience is still relevant to our society today. Explore one of the ways this is true.
  - (2) Research one Japanese American WWII soldier, and highlight elements of their experience that are most meaningful to you.
- Please select to either: A) write an essay or B) work of poetry.
- Limits:
  - Essays - 300-500 words
  - Poetry - Three typed pages or less
  - Must be sent as a Word doc
- Please identify which category you are entering, phone number, your school/university, title of your entry, and grade/level (what grade you are/were in for the 2019-2020 school year).
- Please email entries to [studentcontest@goforbroke.org](mailto:studentcontest@goforbroke.org) by Sunday, June 28, 2020.
- A panel will be judging the entries.
- Winners will be notified by Friday, July 17, 2020.
- All contestants will be added to Go For Broke National Education Center's etorch email list to receive updates on the organization.

## ELIGIBILITY

- This contest is open to high school (9th through 12th grades) and college (undergraduate and graduate) students.
- If you were a winner the previous year, you are ineligible for entry in the same category, but may submit an entry this year under a different category.

## TIPS AND HELPFUL HINTS

- Go For Broke National Education Center's *Defining Courage* exhibition is located in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. Visit the exhibition to learn more about the Japanese American WWII experience. *Defining Courage* is free for students.
- For information about the Japanese American WWII veterans, please refer to our website. Interviews of more than 700 veterans are available online.

## PRIZES

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 12 student qualified entries as follows:

<b>Essay, High School Division</b>	<b>Poetry, High School Division</b>	<b>Essay, College Division</b>	<b>Poetry, College Division</b>
\$1,000: First Prize	\$1,000: First Prize	\$1,000: First Prize	\$1,000: First Prize
\$500: Second Prize	\$500: Second Prize	\$500: Second Prize	\$500: Second Prize
\$250: Third Prize	\$250: Third Prize	\$250: Third Prize	\$250: Third Prize

The four grand prize winners will each receive two complimentary tickets\* to attend our 19th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner and Auction on Saturday, November 14, 2020 at The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in downtown Los Angeles. All winners will be published in a booklet at the event and on our website.

\*Please be advised that travel and accommodations are not included with the complimentary tickets to 19th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner and Auction.