

HONOR YOUR PERSONAL MICHIGAN HERO— BY WRITING AN ESSAY ABOUT THEM!

TOPIC: “MY PERSONAL MICHIGAN HERO”

There are people in your life who inspire, help, teach, or guide you. In your community, you are surrounded by Michigan people making a difference. Which one is a hero to you? Who is it that you admire and would like to show gratitude to?

We invite you to write a 500-word essay about your personal Michigan hero—someone who lives in our state who’s taught you important lessons or helped you to pursue your dreams. It could be a family member, neighbor, businessperson, or anyone in your community. Tell us about their qualities or the reason they’re special in your life.

TIPS:

- Be honest
- Stay positive
- Use humor
- Be personal, and
- Most of all be original in your writing.

Your essay will be very meaningful to them and act as a lasting tribute. We can’t wait to read your essay!

THE AWARDS

STUDENT

- Top three essayists from each school will receive an honor certificate.
- Each school’s 1st place winner will receive a commemorative pen.



SCHOOL

- Each school receives a plaque for their first year of participation, with their school’s 1st place student’s name engraved on it. The plaque remains on permanent display in the school so names of future winners can be added.
- The 1st place essay from each school will be entered into the statewide competition from which the top ten essays will be chosen.

STATEWIDE

- If a student from your school is selected as a statewide finalist, the school and student will be notified in April.
- The ten statewide winners will be invited to attend an awards day program in May.
- A teacher and two other adults may accompany each winner.
- The top ten student winners will receive a cash award of \$1,000, a plaque, and medallion.
- The top ten winners’ schools will each receive a \$1,000 check compliments of the student winner and an additional \$500 if the school has been sponsored by a Farm Bureau Insurance agent.



PARENTAL PERMISSION CARD

This card, or a copy, must be completed and signed by the parent or guardian of the student whose name appears on this card (the “Student”), and must be stapled to the essay in order to qualify the Student for the contest.

I grant full permission to the Student to participate in the America & Me Essay Contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance. I understand and agree that all entries become the property of Farm Bureau Insurance and will not be returned. I also grant full permission to Farm Bureau Insurance to use the Student’s name, photograph, and essay (or a portion thereof) as well as the name and city of the Student’s school in booklets and other written materials, on the Farm Bureau Insurance website and social media pages. Furthermore, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this is the Student’s own work.

Signature of parent or guardian

Please print the following information legibly.

Student’s Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Sex: M or F

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Full School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

School Phone Number _____

County _____

Teacher’s Full Name _____

Farm Bureau Insurance Agent
Sponsor’s Full Name

(if your school has an agent sponsor)

THE RULES

- The contest begins September 3 and ends November 15, 2019.
- A maximum of 10 entries from each school will be accepted for judging.
- Entries must be submitted by the school, not by the individual contestants, and must arrive at the Farm Bureau Insurance corporate office in Lansing no later than November 19, 2019.
- The contest is open to any 8th grade student in Michigan attending a state education facility.
- The essay must be based on the topic "My Personal Michigan Hero."
- The essay must be typed and double spaced.
- Retain a copy of your submitted essay. Farm Bureau Insurance cannot return or make copies of essays.
- Students name, home address, school, and school address must appear at the top of each page of the essays.
- A Parental Permission Card must be filled out and stapled to the back of all essays.
- Essay must be the student's own work and may be up to 500 words long.
- Essays are judged on originality, creativity, quality of writing, how well the information is conveyed, and accuracy. It is important to stay within the parameters of the theme.



GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN WRITING!

Note: School essays must be submitted at one time – no straggler essays will be accepted.



RULES BROCHURE

Contest runs
September 3rd through
November 15th, 2019

