

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

America

ESSAY CONTEST

FOR GLENDALE
5TH GRADERS



Happy Birthday America!

America turns 250 years old in 2026, and Glendale wants to celebrate by hearing from YOU.

The City of Glendale Office of Arts & Culture invites all Glendale 5th grade students to participate in a district-wide essay contest celebrating America250.

Celebrate 250 years of history by uplifting the voices shaping the next 250.

Essay Guidelines

- **Prompt:** Why do you love America?
- 3–5 paragraphs
- 300–500 words
- Include an introduction, body, and conclusion

Awards & Recognition

One Winner from Each of the City's Districts

- Commemorative certificate signed by Mayor Jerry Weiers
- \$25 gift card

One Overall City-Wide Winner

- Commemorative certificate signed by Mayor Jerry Weiers
- Family 4-pack to **Andretti Indoor Karting & Games**
- \$50 gift card
- Opportunity to read their essay at the Downtown Glendale America250 Celebration this summer

Teacher Submission Details

- **Select and email top 2-3 essays to:** publicart@glendaleaz.com
- **Deadline:** Friday, April 24, 2026
- **Winners announced:** Week of May 11, 2026

Essay Review Panel

Essays will first be reviewed by City Councilmembers, who will read and select each city's district winner. Mayor Jerry Weiers will then review the 6 district-winning essays and select one overall city-wide winner.

America★**250**

Glendale

ARTS & CULTURE