



November 30, 2022

Dear Voice of Democracy Participants,

As the Post Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7096 in Brooklyn, NY, I would like to congratulate all of you on your submissions to this year's competition. All of the essays were well written and recited which proved a difficult task for us to select a Post Winner to advance to the District (Regional) level.

**After careful consideration we have selected our 1<sup>st</sup> Place Post Winner who will advance to the District (Regional) level:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: Maximilian S. Eklund** 9<sup>th</sup> Grader at St. Joseph by the Sea High School. Congratulations! We wish you luck as your essay competes at the Regional level. If selected to move on further you will be notified at each stage accordingly.

Congratulations to our **2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>** Place Post Winners:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Charles H. Wood** 10<sup>th</sup> Grader at Trinity School.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Veronica H. Eklund** 12<sup>th</sup> Grader at Fontbonne Hall Academy.

Everyone who participated should be very proud of their accomplishments for a job well done! We were humbled to have so many young students such as yourselves participate in this year's competition.

For our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winners, we will have a formal awards presentation in early 2023 sometime after the Holiday Season and we will notify you once that date has been set.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me [Cmd@vfw7096.org](mailto:Cmd@vfw7096.org)

Semper Fidelis,

**Brian Rodriguez,**  
Commander Post No. 7096

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

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