



America's Field Trip



America's Field Trip is a nationwide student contest sponsored by **America250**, the official nonpartisan entity charged by Congress with planning the nation's Semiquincentennial, also known as the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. America's Field Trip invites students in grades 3–12 to be part of this historic milestone by sharing their perspectives on what America means to them — with the chance to earn a once-in-a-lifetime field trip experience at one of 16 different iconic American landmarks or cultural sites, including Mount Rushmore, the National Archives Museum, Kennedy Space Center, and Yellowstone National Park — just to name a few.

Visit America250.org/FieldTrip/Rules for Official Contest Rules.

- ★ **Deadline:** Monday, March 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. PT/8:00 p.m. ET.
- ★ **Eligibility:** Any student in grades 3–12 who is a legal resident of any of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or the five U.S. territories is eligible to enter. First- and second-prize awardees from the previous two America's Field Trip contests are not eligible to enter or win.
- ★ **Submission Requirements:** Students at each grade level may create artwork, including physical artwork submitted through a high-res photo, a digital drawing, or a written response.
- ★ **Judging Criteria:** A panel of current and former educators will evaluate submissions based on **Student Voice** (50%), **Clarity of Idea** (25%), and **Presentation** (25%).
- ★ **Prizes: *NEW!*** 125 first-place awardees and their designated chaperone will receive travel and lodging for a three-day, two-night trip to a select historical or cultural site in July and August 2026. 125 second-place awardees will receive \$500 cash awards and three educators will each earn \$1,000. Award recipients will be notified in late April 2026.

How to Enter the Contest

Students at each grade level will respond to the prompt, **"What does America mean to you?"** with artwork or writing. Students must develop submissions individually and may not enter as a group.

Students under the age of 18 are required to have a teacher, parent, or legal guardian submit their entry through the application portal at America250.org/FieldTrip/Application. A teacher may only submit an entry on behalf of a student with written permission from that student's parent or legal guardian. Written permission may be granted via email correspondence, text, or using the [permission slip template](#).

For more information about America's Field Trip, including official contest rules, 2026 field trip locations, judging criteria, submission thought starters, classroom activities, and Spanish-language resources, please visit America250.org/FieldTrip or scan the QR code.



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