

ProRodeo Hall of Fame

Month of the Military Child Essay Contest

“What Grit and Determination Mean to me as a Military Child”

Contest Rules

Eligibility: Open to any student grades 9-12 in El Paso County, Colorado with an active-duty or veteran parent or guardian.

Essay Theme: Please respond to the prompt, “What Grit and Determination Means to me as a Military Child”

Word Count: 500-600 words; Essays below or above this word count will be disqualified; Citations will not be counted as part of the count

Formatting: Typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins; Essays not in this format will be disqualified

Content: Must strictly adhere to the presented theme

Identifiers: Do not use your name, school name, family names or any information that may reveal your identity to the judges in your essay or on your essay page. Personal information should only appear on the entry form.

Originality: Essays must be original, unpublished work of the participant. All essays will be checked for plagiarism and AI-generated content.

Citations: Proper documentation of sources, where applicable, is required to avoid disqualification.

Submission Deadline: April 6, 2026, 5:00pm Submissions received after this date and time will not be considered.

Submission Guidelines: All essays must be submitted by email in pdf format. All Submissions must include the official entry page.

Judging: Essays will be read by a panel of qualified judges chosen by the ProRodeo Hall of Fame. The identity of participants will remain unknown to the judges.

Winner Notification: The winner will be notified on April 10, 2026 by phone.

Award:

- Tickets for four to the ProRodeo Hall of Fame “An Evening with Ben Garland: Celebrating Champions and Service in the Community.” **Sponsored by The Law Offices of Nicholas Engle**
- Photo with Ben Garland.
- Opportunity to read your essay at the event prior to Ben Garland’s Fireside chat
- Essay published on the ProRodeo Hall of Fame Website
- Social media post about your achievement

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ENTRY FORM

Full Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Military Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

School Name/Home School: _____

District (If Applicable): _____

Grade: _____

Age: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

Questions: Sloan Hoffmann shoffmann@prorodeo.com 719-528-4732

Please submit your essay and entry form in pdf format to: shoffmann@prorodeo.com

