



## **BUDDY POPPY KING AND QUEEN ESSAY CONTEST**

The Buddy Poppy King and Queen Essay Contest background and instructions are included in this information sheet. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Buddy Poppy Program has raised millions of dollars in support of the veterans' welfare and the well-being of their dependents for more than 97 years. The Buddy Poppy King and Queen contest is a long-standing tradition of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of North Carolina and Auxiliary with this 61<sup>st</sup> annual contest.

The Indian Trail James B. Crump VFW Post 2423 is proud to sponsor this essay contest at the local level. Our first place winner will be submitted to the VFW Department (State) of NC for the state wide competition. If you do not live near Post 2423, look for a VFW Post in your community to enter the contest.

This contest provides an opportunity to teach our youth about the history and importance of the Buddy Poppy program and brings public awareness of the VFW Buddy Poppy. VFW Post 2423 conducts frequent Buddy Poppy fund raising campaigns around Indian Trail with support of our local businesses. We are most active around the Memorial and Veterans Day weekends where we ask for donations that help any veteran in need. All donations are deposited into our Relief Fund with strict distribution guidelines established by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Inc. It's truly all about veterans helping our veterans and living up to our motto of "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living."

The Buddy Poppy King and Queen Contest is open to all girls and boys between the ages of 10 - 12. We encourage youth to be involved in the distribution of the Poppies to learn more about the program and our local area veterans. Go to [www.vfw2423.org/programs](http://www.vfw2423.org/programs) tab for these instructions and application.

### **How to enter the contest?**

1. Write a handwritten essay entitled, "What is the purpose of the "Buddy" Poppy and how has it impacted your life?" Please print and sign your name at the bottom of the essay.
2. Attach a 4" x 6" picture. Include your name on the back of the picture.
3. Complete the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Buddy Poppy King/Queen Contest Application 2020 and list patriotic and community activities on page 2.

Entries must be received by December 1, 2020. The state wide winner will be recognized at the February Winter Council meeting of the VFW Department of NC and receive a monetary award.

What better way to "Serve from the Heart for Our Veterans" than to participate in a program where the donations received serve one of this country's most noble resources, the millions of men and women who served and fought for our freedom.

For more information about the Buddy Poppy, see [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), [www.vfwnc.com](http://www.vfwnc.com), or [www.vfw2423.org](http://www.vfw2423.org). For questions and/or submission of your entry, contact the James B. Crump VFW Post Commander, Donn Kegel, at 704-763--5035 or by email at [donn2405@aol.com](mailto:donn2405@aol.com). You can drop off your entry at 100 VFW Lane, Indian Trail, NC 28079 or mail it to James B. Crump VFW Post 2423, P O Box 535, Indian Trail, NC 28079. All entries must be received by midnight on December 1, 2020.