400 years ago the *Mayflower* landed on the shores of Massachusetts, forever changing the course of history of four nations: America, England, Netherlands, and Wampanoag. By commemorating the landing of the *Mayflower*, we honor the story of the Pilgrims and of the native Wampanoag people. Their stories embody the triumphs and tragedies of life in early New England and in the country itself. These stories are still relevant today.

The 2020 American Ancestors Young Historians Essay Contest asks students to explore how this 400-year-old history relates to our national, familial, and/or personal stories and identities.

**Questions (select one of the following):**

- How is the story of the *Mayflower* still relevant today?
- How does your family’s journey to America compare to the journey of the Pilgrims in 1620?
- As a native student, what does your tribal history mean to you?

**Submission Deadline**
June 10, 2020

**Who is eligible?**
Students currently enrolled in grades 5–12 in public, private, and parochial schools, and those in home-study programs across the state of Massachusetts

**Prizes**
Grades 5–8: Three winners will receive $500 and be invited to present part of their essay at special events in Boston, MA.

Grades 9–12: Three winners will receive $750 and be invited to present part of their essay at special events in Boston, MA.

Submit your winning entry at Mayflower.AmericanAncestors.org/essay-contest