



Iowa America 250 Student Contest

Madhav Ganesh Kumar

Johnston Community School District, 8th grade

Essay/Poem

Prompt 4: America's Founding Principles

The Banner Turns Gold

America,
A nation founded by the Rule of Law,
Audacious men who came o'er the oceans and saw,
A brawny blow to the tyrants' jaw.
A great land so primeval and yet to be tamed,
A group of settlers who one day would rise to the Hall of Fame,
The great ballad of freedom and Life rings through the peoples' ears,
Oh, fellow Americans, the time is truly near,
Completely passed almost: Two marvelous centuries plus a half,
Throughout these years, many despots were downed by our staff.
In 250 years, Old Glory rose to pure merit and prominence,
From stubborn underdogs to global dominance,
And in our good homeland, freedom shines like a golden sword,
And Liberty watches us carefully through the eyes of God.
Many of these principles are truly alive today,
Alive in the hearts that immigrate to a new nation of hope,
To a land of opportunities and equality,
To live the American Dream,
Alive in the hands that welcome and voices that sing,
Where dreams of freedom and hope take flight with angel's wing.
In the time to come, the United States nears its golden age,
The age defined by wellness and prowess,
We must look to the new beam emerging,
The golden beam known as the Pursuit of Happiness.