

**Veterans and Children Read Together**  
**2024-2025 National Youth Activities Ambassador Dominique Garcia**

Don't forget, March 2 is Dr. Seuss Day (Read Across America). This is a perfect time to host an event of veterans reading to children and children reading to veterans. Check with your local libraries, community centers and schools to see if any events are being held and ask if you could join in and get the veterans involved. See about partnering with the Post and hosting your own event. You can pick books by Dr. Seuss or from the Patriotism through Literacy book list.

Continue working with youth groups and getting them involved as much as you can. Many high school students need volunteer hours for college applications; bring them in and have them help out. Teach them about our organization and all we do. Show them what it means to be patriotic.

Always remember when working with youth of any age:

- Be respectful of them and their time.
- Make the parents feel welcomed and encourage them to stay.
- Be aware of your volunteer location. Make sure it is appropriate.
- Don't drink or smoke in front of them.
- Be a role model for them, they are looking up to you, so set a good example.

It only takes a short amount of time to make a difference in a child's life. Listen to the child and support the child; you may be their inspiration to do something big in their life.

**DEADLINES:**

**Awards for Auxiliaries**

Most Outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth. Entry form must be filled out completely and sent to YOUR DEPARTMENT Chairman by March 31, 2025. Form must be signed by the Chairman and sent to the National Youth Activities Ambassador by April 30, 2025

**Illustrating America Art Contest**

March 31- Student entries must be submitted to the local Auxiliary for judging.

April 15- First-place winners in each division must be submitted to Departments for judging.

May 5- First-place winner from each grade division from each Department is due to National Headquarters for judging.

IMPORTANT- please be sure the entry form is COMPLETELY filled out and student name, age and grade level must be printed on the back of the art entry.

Good luck to all the students. Let's see how the children view our beautiful America!