

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
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Please help spread the word about this very important program!!!!
Reach out to local schools, private institutions, churches, parent organizations, and other youth groups.

The Scholarship program offers significant financial support for higher education, covering tuition and related expenses. Scholarships are available for students in grades 6-12. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote patriotism while aiding students in achieving their full potential. For application forms and detailed rules for all contests, please contact Department Chairman, Lori Juskiewicz or at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

2025-2026 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY- Audio Essay Contest

Theme is: "How Are You Showing Your Patriotism And Support For Our Country?"

The Voice of Democracy is a 3-5 min audio essay contest that is open to students in grades 9-12, including those who attend public, private, or who are homeschooled. Students must be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One Dept winner will be forwarded on to the VFW National Headquarters.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at the local Post level by midnight **OCTOBER 31, 2025**. Post judging to be completed by **NOVEMBER 15, 2025**. District judging to be completed by **DECEMBER 15, 2025**, Department judging to be completed by **JANUARY 10, 2026**. The Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by **JANUARY 15, 2026**

NATIONAL AWARDS: 1st place \$35,000 scholarship, 2nd place \$ 21,000 scholarship, 3rd place \$15,000 scholarship, 4th-36th place \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship, 37th-53rd place \$1000 scholarship. The 1st place winner will enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Valley Forge for the Founding Forward Spirit of America Leadership Program..

2025-2026 PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEXT

Theme: "How Are You Showing Your Patriotism And Support For Our Country?"

The Patriot's Pen is a 300–400-word written essay contest, open to students in grades 6-8, including those who attend public, private, or who are homeschooled. Students must be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at the local Post level by midnight **OCTOBER 31, 2025**. Post judging completed by **NOVEMBER 15, 2025**. District judging by **DECEMBER 15, 2025**. One winner will be forwarded to Department. Department judging will be completed by **JANUARY 10, 2026**. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by **JANUARY 15, 2026**.

NATIONAL AWARDS: 1st Place \$5,000; 2nd \$4,000; 3rd \$3,500; 4th-53rd \$ 2,750 - \$500

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

A well-kept secret that shouldn't be a secret at all!!!! This scholarship is open to any VFW Auxiliary member who has been a member for at least one year, their spouse, son, or daughter with a financial need. Entrant must be at least 21 years of age, complete the application and submit an essay of 300 words or less. The application must be received by **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**. The Continuing Education Scholarship is \$1,250 and is awarded to one winner in each of the four Conferences. Applications must be received at Auxiliary National Headquarters by **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**. Program awards Administrator, VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters 406 West 34th Street – 10th Floor – Kansas City, MO 6411

**** This is VFW Auxiliary National President Lois Callahan's special project for her year, as Continuing Education is close to her heart. At one time, she benefited from such a scholarship. Donations to the National President's Special Project can be made in MALTA under the "Gifts" tab.**

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST AND 3-DIMENTIONAL CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST.

These Contests are open to students in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in public, private, parochial high schools, or those who are home schooled in the United States and its territories. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme, creativity, and technique. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters. More information and application are available from the Department Scholarship Chairman, National website: www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships or in Malta.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at local VFW Auxiliary by **MARCH 31, 2026**. Local Auxiliary judging to be completed by **APRIL 10, 2026**. District judging is optional. Department judging to be completed by **APRIL 15, 2026**. Must be forwarded to National Headquarters by **MAY 5, 2026**.

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST NATIONAL AWARDS

1ST PLACE \$15,000, 2ND PLACE \$7,500, 3RD PLACE \$3,500, 4TH PLACE \$2,500, 5TH AND 6TH PLACE \$1,500, 7TH AND 8TH PLACE \$1,000, 9TH-19TH PLACE \$500

3-DIMENTIONAL CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

1ST PLACE \$2,500, 2ND PLACE \$1,000, 3RD PLACE \$500

DEPARTMENT AWARDS: In all four contests: VOD/ Patriot's Pen / 3-D ART /Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests

First Place winners: \$150 and plaque

Second Place winners: \$100

Third Place winners: \$50

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

Most creative and/or unique activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and VFW Auxiliary

- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most creative and/or unique activity and/or event

Entry form is required and available in Malta Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Chairman by **April 15, 2026** for judging.

Department Awards: See page 4 of this Guidebook.

"ALWAYS STAY TRUE TO OUR RED, WHITE, AND BLUE"

