



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Let's spread the word on this amazing opportunity! This scholarship is open to **ANY** VFW Auxiliary member who has been a member for at least one (1) year, their spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. The

Continuing Education Scholarship is \$1,250 and is awarded to one (1) winner in each of the four (4) Conferences. Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical, or trade school of the awardee's choice. 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, 2027**.

Mail to: VFW Auxiliary Headquarters Program Awards Administrator
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor Kansas City, MO. 64111

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST **3-D CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST**

These contests are open to all students in grades 9-12. Entries will be judged on Patriotic Theme, Creativity and Technique. One (1) Department winner will be forwarded to the VFW Auxiliary Headquarters. **IMPORTANT:** 3-D entries **MUST** include a photo of their art. All entries **MUST** be received at their local VFW Post by **MARCH 31, 2027**, with judging to be completed by **APRIL 10, 2027**. Department judging to be completed by **APRIL 15, 2027**. Entries will be forwarded to National Headquarters by **MAY 5, 2027**.

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST NATIONAL AWARDS:

1ST PLACE - \$15,000, **2ND PLACE** - \$7,500, **3RD PLACE** - \$4,500, **4TH PLACE** - \$4,000, **5TH and 6TH PLACE** - \$1,500, **7TH -10TH PLACE** - \$1,000, **11TH PLACE** - \$750, **12TH – 20TH PLACE** - \$500

3-D CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

1ST PLACE - \$2,500, **2ND PLACE** - \$1,500, **3RD and 4TH PLACE** - \$1,000, **5TH PLACE** - \$500

2026 – 2027 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY – Audio Essay Contest

Theme is: “What a Veteran Has Taught Me About America”

The Voice of Democracy is a 3–5-minute audio essay contest that is open to all students in grades 9-12. Students **MUST** be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One (1) Department winner will be forwarded to the VFW National Headquarters. All entries **MUST** be received at their local VFW Post by **Midnight OCTOBER 31, 2026**. Post judging to be completed by **NOVEMBER 15, 2026**. District judging will be completed by **DECEMBER 15, 2026**. Department judging will be completed by **JANUARY 10, 2027**. The Department winner will be forwarded to the VFW National Headquarters by **JANUARY 15, 2027**.

NATIONAL AWARDS

1ST PLACE - \$35,000 Scholarship, **2ND PLACE** - \$21,000 Scholarship, **3RD PLACE** - \$1,500 Scholarship, **4TH – 36th PLACE** - \$7,000 to \$1,500 Scholarship, **37TH – 53RD PLACE** - \$1,000 Scholarship. The **1ST PLACE** winner will also enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Valley Forge for the Founding Forward Spirit of America Leadership Program.

2026-2027 PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST
Theme is: "What a Veteran Has Taught Me About America"

The Patriot's Pen is a 300-400 word written essay contest that is open to all students in grades 6-8. Students **MUST** be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One (1) Department winner will be forwarded to the VFW National Headquarters. All entries **MUST** be received at their local VFW Post by **Midnight, OCTOBER 31, 2026**, with Post judging to be completed by **NOVEMBER 15, 2026**. District judging will be completed by **DECEMBER 15, 2026**. One (1) winner will be forwarded to the Department level with judging to be completed by **JANUARY 10, 2027**. The Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by **JANUARY 15, 2027**.

NATIONAL AWARDS

1ST PLACE - \$5,000, 2ND PLACE - \$4,000, 3RD PLACE - \$3,500, 4TH – 53RD PLACE - \$2,750 - \$500

Reach out to your 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. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote Patriotism while aiding students in achieving their full potential.

Let's focus on celebrating talented students who participated in our contests at every level by "**rolling out the Red Carpet**" for them! They have worked hard and deserve for us to shine a spotlight on their writing and artwork!

Scholarships are available for students in grades 6-12, to include those enrolled in public, private, parochial high schools, or who are home schooled in the United States and its territories.

For application forms and detailed rules for all contests, please contact Department Chairwoman, Debby McCarthy or online at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

NATIONAL AWARD FOR AUXILIARIES

A Citation and \$25 to One (1) Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the Most Outstanding "Red Carpet" event/celebration honoring VFW and VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants. Entry form is required and available in MALTA Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Chairman by **MARCH 31, 2027**, for judging. The Department Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry form to the National Ambassador by **APRIL 30, 2027**, for judging.

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS in all 4 contests: YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE
PATRIOTIC ART / 3-D CREATIVE PATRIOT ART / V.O.D. / PATRIOT'S PEN**
1ST PLACE - \$150 and a Plaque, 2ND PLACE - \$100, 3RD PLACE - \$50

DEPARTMENT AWARDS ARE LISTED ON PAGE FOUR (4) OF THIS GUIDEBOOK

"Serving America's Heroes" because we stay "Busy as a Bee working Together for our Veterans"