

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
**JOAN BARNHART, CHAIRMAN**  
**689 Southside Road – Cold Brook, N.Y. 13324**  
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**SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS PROGRAM!! CONTACT local Schools, Junior ROTC Units, Churches, Youth Sport Teams, Parent-Teacher Associations, and other youth groups in your area.**

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM provides substantial financial assistance to pay for higher education tuition and expenses. Scholarship opportunities are available for students enrolled in grades 6 to 12. What a great way to encourage patriotism and help students reach their full potential. Application forms and complete rules for all contests may be obtained by contacting Department Chairman Joan Barnhart or at [www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarship](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarship).

**2024 – 2025 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY -Audio Essay Contest**  
**Theme is: “Is America Today, Our Forefathers Vision?”**

The Voice of Democracy 3 to 5 minutes audio essay contest is open to all students Grades 9 to 12, including those who attend public, private schools, and homeschooled students. Students must be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One Department winner will be forwarded on to VFW National Headquarters.

**DEADLINES:** All entries must be received at the local Post by midnight October 31, 2024. Post judging to be completed by November 15, 2024. District judging must be completed by December 15, 2024; one winner will be forwarded on to Department. Department judging will be completed by January 10, 2025. The Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by January 15, 2025.

**National Awards:** First Place-\$35,000 scholarship; Second Place - \$21,000 scholarship; Third Place - \$15,000 scholarship; Fourth through 36th Place - \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship; 37<sup>th</sup> – 53<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$1,000 scholarship. The first-place Department winner will enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.

**2024 – 2025 PATRIOT’S PEN ESSAY CONTEST**  
**Theme: “My Voice in America’s Democracy?”**

The Patriot’s Pen is a 300 to 400 word written essay contest that is open to all students enrolled in **Grades 6 to 8**, including those who attend public, private and homeschooled students. 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 by midnight October 31, 2024. Post judging to be completed by November 15, 2024; District judging must be completed by December 15, 2024; one winner will be forwarded to the Department. Department judging will be completed by January 10, 2025. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by January 15, 2025.

**National Awards:** First Place - \$ 5,000; Second - \$4,000; Third Place - \$3,500; Fourth though 53<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$2,750 to \$500.00.

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP**

The Continuing Education Scholarship is open to any VFW Auxiliary member who has been a member for at least a year, their spouse, son, or daughter with a financial need. Entrants must be 21 years old by February 15, 2025. 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, 2025. Program Awards Administrator, VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters  
406 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street – 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Kansas City, MO 64111.

## **YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST AND 3-DIMENSIONAL CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST**

These Contests are open to students in Grades 9-12 who are enrolled in public, private, or parochial high schools, or home study programs 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 applications are available from the Department Scholarship Chairman or the National website: [www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships).

**DEADLINES: All entries must be received at local VFW Auxiliary by March 31, 2025**  
**Local Auxiliary Judging Complete – April 10, 2025**  
**District Judging is Optional - VFW Auxiliary Department Judging by April 15, 2025**  
**Forward to National Headquarters by May 5, 2025**

### **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest NATIONAL Awards**

First Place - \$15,000; Second Place - \$7,500; Third Place \$ 3,500; Fourth Place - \$2,500;  
Fifth and Sixth Place - \$1,500; Seventh and Eighth Place - \$1,000;  
Ninth through Nineteenth Place - \$500.00

### **3-Dimensional Creative Patriotic Art Contest NATIONAL Scholarship Awards**

First Place - \$2,500 – Second Place - \$ 1,000 - Third Place - \$500.00

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

**First place winners: \$150 and a plaque**  
**Second place winners: \$100**  
**Third place winners: \$50**

**“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families!”**

**“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”**