

Scholarships October 2024-2025

National Ambassador
Dina Hudson

Department Chairman
Kim Butcher



National President Brenda Bryant
“From Our Roots To Our Branches”
Extending Service To Our Veterans

Department President
Marsha LaRosh
“Remember, Respect, Honor

Brothers and Sisters,

Wow, it's already October! There are two VFW contests that you may assist with on judging. Some Districts are asking for a photo of the student when you send your 1st place entry to them. So maybe talk to your VFW and VFW Auxiliary District Chairmen.

Patriot's Pen

Theme for 2024-2025 is **“My Voice in America's Democracy”** Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th grades. All essays will be typed in English with no color or graphics and 300 – 400 words in length. The essay must be students original work and a product of the students own thinking. The approach to the theme should be positive and clearly focused. Poetry is not accepted. The body of the essay must not identify you in anyway. Quotations may be used sparingly if plainly identified whenever used.

Judging Criteria:

Knowledge of theme is worth 30 points.

Did the student show they had knowledge of the theme? Does it sound like they researched the issue?

Theme development is worth 35 points.

Has the student answered all relevant facts who, what, where, when and why? Are they able to relate with their own experiences?

Clarity of ideas is worth 35 points.

Is it easy to understand the format? Does the essay leave a clear understanding of the explanation of the theme?

Voice of Democracy Audio – Essay Contest

Theme for 2024-2025 is **“Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?”** Open to students in grades 9-12. Students record their original 3 – 5 minute (+ or – 5 second max) audio essay on a flash drive, or other electronic device. Also with the recording, a typed essay of the speech and completed entry form. In addition, you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in anyway.

Judging Criteria:

Originality is worth 30 points. Does the essay show imagination and human interest?

Content is worth 35 points. Are ideas clearly expressed and organized? Is the theme fully developed and transitions used to move smoothly from one idea to another?

Delivery is worth 35 points. Did they speak clearly and in a credible manner?

I hope this helps you if asked to help judge the essays for Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy! Until next month, have a fantastic October! Kim



VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

2024-2025

VFW Auxiliary National is pleased to present this National Scholarship to assist students who wish to further their education. This scholarship contest recognizes young artists and encourages patriotism in youth. Entries will be judged on originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed, content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas, design technique and total impact of work.

Contest Eligibility

- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate
- Students in grades 9-12 by March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home school program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.
- Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent resident (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Foreign exchange students, students aged 20 or older, GED and adult education students are **not** eligible.
- Previous winners of VFW Auxiliary National 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contests are **not** eligible.

Contest Rules

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Entry must be three dimensional.
- Entry may **not** be larger than 18" in any direction
- Entry may not weigh more than 5 pounds.
- Stone, clay, metal, wood, fabric, papier mâché, pottery, and other media may be used.
- Digital art and photography, weapons, art generated by a 3-D printer and jewelry are **not** accepted.
- If the American Flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, numbers of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Completed typed or printed legible entry form including student and parent and/or guardian signatures.
- Typed or printed legible explanation of the steps taken to create the 3-Dimensional art entry and artist statement (250 words or less).
- Submit at least 2 photos of completed art entry

VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships

First place - \$2,500
Second place - \$1,500
Third place - \$1,000
Fourth place - \$500

Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical or trade school of the winners' choice within 5 five years after high school graduation.

VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for entries which are lost, late, illegible, damaged, incomplete, misdirected, stolen, or reproduced. All scores are final as received from the judges. All contestants must agree to abide by the contest rules. Falsifying information on the entry form or any violation of these rules shall cause immediate disqualification and forfeiture of scholarship.

VFW Auxiliary judging dates and deadlines:

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.
- **April 15:** First place winner from each participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary or **optional** VFW Auxiliary District advances to the VFW Auxiliary Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** First place winner from each Department (state) due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- **July/August:** All students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winning entries will be announced on VFW Auxiliary National social media pages and may be displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- **September:** All art entries received at VFW Auxiliary National will be returned to students to the address provided on the entry form.

VFW Auxiliary National reserves the right to modify these rules and eligibility without notice.



VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

Contest Entry Form

2024-2025

Please print or type

Incomplete and/or illegible entry forms will disqualify the entrant

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Title of entry: _____ Date completed: _____

Media used: _____

Source: _____

State the source of your idea for entry: person, website, magazine, newspaper, TV, etc. To comply with copyright laws, all artwork must be original to the entrant. Artwork may be inspired by another artists/photographer's work, but not to the degree that the new piece of artwork is easily recognized as being derivative of another artist's work. If another artist's/photographer's work is used as a source of inspiration or reference, a copy of the artist's/photographer's work must be provided along with the name and date of publication in which it was found. Any artwork that is recognized as being in violation of these rules will be disqualified.

*Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

*I hereby grant permission for my artwork to be published in the VFW Auxiliary National Magazine, the VFW Auxiliary National website and social media and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary National organization.

VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for entries which are lost, late, illegible, damaged, incomplete, misdirected, stolen, or reproduced. All scores are final as received from the judges. All contestants must agree to abide by the contest rules. Falsifying information on the entry form or any violation of these rules shall cause immediate disqualification and forfeiture of scholarship.

Participating Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary contact information

Contact Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Contact email: _____

To avoid entrant disqualification

This section is to be filled out completely and correctly by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level. VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters only accepts **Department** level first-place winning entries.

Participating Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary Name & Number: _____ **Dept. of:** _____

March 31: Student entries due to participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Scholarship Chairman verification signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

April: Optional VFW Auxiliary District judging.

VFW Auxiliary District judging verification signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

April 15: First place winner from each participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary or **optional** VFW Auxiliary District judging due to the Department for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Chairman judging verification signature: _____ Date: _____

VFW Auxiliary Department Pres., Sec. and/or Treas. verification signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

May 5: Final Level Deadline First place winner from each VFW Auxiliary Department must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging. Attention: Program Awards Administrator.

July/August: All students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winning entries will be announced on VFW Auxiliary National social media pages and may be displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

September: All art entries received at VFW Auxiliary National will be returned to students to the address provided on the entry form.



VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

2024-2025

VFW Auxiliary National is pleased to present this National Scholarship to assist students who wish to further their education. This scholarship contest recognizes young artists and encourages patriotism in youth. Entries will be judged on originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed, content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas, design technique and total impact of work.

Contest Eligibility

- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate
- Students in grades 9-12 by March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home school program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.
- Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent resident (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Foreign exchange students, students aged 20 or older, GED and adult education students are **not** eligible.
- Previous winners of VFW Auxiliary National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests are **not** eligible.

Contest Rules

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Entry must be two dimensional.
- Entry must be on canvas or paper.
- Canvas entries must be submitted on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- Paper entries must be reinforced with heavy paper.
- Do **not** frame art with wood, metal, plastic or glass.
- Mats may be used, including mounted and floating mats.
- Entries may **not** be smaller than 8"x10" and **not** larger than 18"x24" **including** mat.
- Acrylic, chalk, charcoal, crayon, graphite, ink, marker, oil, pastel, pen, pencil, tempera, watercolor or other media may be used.
- If the American Flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, numbers of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Digital art and photography are **not** accepted.
- Completed typed or printed legible entry form including student and parent and/or guardian signatures.
- Typed or printed legible artist statement (250 words or less).
- Student name on back of art entry.

VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships

First place - \$15,000

Second place - \$7,500

Third place - \$3,500

Fourth place and Fifth place - \$1,500

Sixth place and Seventh place - \$1,000

Eighth place through Nineteenth place - \$500

Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical or trade school of the winners' choice within 5 five years after high school graduation.

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VFW Auxiliary judging dates and deadlines:

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Revised September 2024

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VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

Contest Entry Form

2024-2025

Please print or type

Incomplete and/or illegible entry forms will disqualify the entrant

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Title of entry: _____ Date completed: _____

Media used: _____

Source: _____

State the source of your idea for entry: person, website, magazine, newspaper, TV, etc. To comply with copyright laws, all artworks must be original to the entrant. Artwork may be inspired by another artists/photographer's work, but not to the degree that the new piece of artwork is easily recognized as being derivative of another artist's work. If another artist's/photographer's work is used as a source of inspiration or reference, a copy of the artist's/photographer's work must be provided along with the name and date of publication in which it was found. Any artwork that is recognized as being in violation of these rules will be disqualified.

*Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Participating Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary contact information

Contact Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Contact email: _____

To avoid entrant disqualification

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