

Scholarships 2024-2025

National Ambassador
Dina Hudson

Department Chairman
Kin 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,

As we begin our new Scholarship year let’s work on getting the information out early. Besides presenting to schools, how about approaching church groups, scouts, sports teams, neighborhood play groups, homeschoolers and don’t forget social media.

Program Goals

- **Student Participation**
- **Recipient Recognition**
- **Community Awareness**
- **Increasing the Fund**

Continuing Education Scholarship

This scholarship is available to Auxiliary members, their spouse and children who have a financial need. Members must have been a member for at least one year to apply. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age by February 15, 2025. Applicants will submit an essay of 300 words or less on how this Scholarship would help them. The scholarship is awarded to one applicant in each of the four Conferences and the amount is \$1,250. Completed applications must be received at National VFW Headquarters by February 15, 2025.

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

This contest is for our patriotic young artists in grades 9-12. Any student in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. This contest offers 19 National Scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$15,000. Art must be on canvas or paper and no smaller than 8”X10” and no larger than 18”X24” not including mat. Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media may be used. Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board. Other entries must be matted in white and the back needs to be reinforced with heavy paper. Mounted and floating mats may be used. No digital art or photography is allowed. Student submission date is March 31, 2025 to a local Auxiliary.

Three – Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

Students may use paper, paper mache, pottery, sculpture, fabric, wood, metalwork, etc. Art **may not** be larger than 18” in any direction, weigh no more than 5lbs. Photography, digital art, three – dimensional laser-printed art, weapons and jewelry are NOT accepted. Four (4) National Scholarships ranging from \$500 - \$2,500. Student submission date is March 31, 2025.

Kansas VFW Endowment

This is open to any student that has a parent or grandparent who is a VFW or Auxiliary member of Kansas. Applicant must be a graduating senior in May 2025, already enrolled in college or someone who desires a

career change later in life. Completed application will need to be turned into the VFW and or VFW Auxiliary, for verification of eligibility of VFW or Auxiliary member. Applications are due to Department of Kansas VFW Headquarters by February 1, 2025. September is Endowment month, so get those thinking caps on and decide on how your Auxiliary can raise funds for our Scholarship!

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 who are enrolled in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Home schooled students also are eligible. Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at Post, District, State and National levels. National awards start at \$500 - \$5,000. 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. Please see application for more information. Student deadline is Midnight, October 31 to VFW Post.

Voice of Democracy Audio – Essay Contest

Theme for 2024-2025 is **"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"** Open to students in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. 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. National awards start at \$1,000 - \$35,000. Student deadline is Midnight, October 31 to VFW Post.

I'm asking all Auxiliaries and Districts to donate to Patriotic Art – Janice Criswell Memorial. I have a couple items I will be selling chances on this year to help with the fundraising for Janice's memorial. Afghan that was donated from Lu Gatson, VFW Auxiliary #6957 Haysville, and a Scentsy Oil Diffuser. Please add in memo Afghan or Oil Diffuser and send your donations to:

Department Treasurer Jeanette Cox
P.O. Box 414
McPherson, Ks. 67460

Tickets and a pictures of Afghan and Scentsy Oil Diffuser, will be available at our Department SOI. Also, each District President, will have pictures when visiting each Auxiliary.

National Auxiliary Award No. 1

Most outstanding activity and /or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

Entry form must be sent to Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. I will forward the winning Department entry to National Scholarships Ambassador Dina Hudson for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Department Awards:

- Best promotion in each membership group of the entire Scholarships Program.
- Citation to each Auxiliary and District for donating at least \$50 to the following fundraisers:

**National Continuing Education escrow
Department of Kansas Patriotic Art - Janice Criswell Memorial
Kansas VFW Endowment**

**Loyally,
Kim Butcher
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