

February Youth Activities Report

Up-coming programs due March 31 to the auxiliaries are Illustrating America and Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue. Make sure you read the contest eligibility and rules and that all entries comply before submitting to District or Department. Local Auxiliary and District winners are to be to me by April 15, 2023.

Pay attention to the following rules for **Illustrating America**:

- Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- Other entries if matted must be matted in white. Do not use color mats.
- Reinforce the back with heavy paper.
Mounted and floating mats may also be used. (This is a mat placed on top of the piece of art)

NOTE: I **will not** accept any entries that come to me not matted or on heavy paper. Please understand that the art comes to you, then to District, then Department, and then to National. The entries cannot stand being handled that many times without some type of reinforcement.

Pay attention to the following for Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue:

- Video must be a recorded live unedited version.
- Student shall **state name, age and grade level prior to vocal performance**.
- Student may sing a cappella, with backing tracks or instruments.
- Student may sing in the arrangement and genre of their choice.
- Student may **NOT** change the words.
- Student may **NOT** lip sync.
- Complete and sign contest entry form. Parent/Guardian signature required on entry form.
- Video must be saved on a media platform of the VFW Auxiliary choice and submitted with a completed entry form for judging.

NOTE: Entries are not entered on zoom this year. Just save it on a flash drive and send it to me.

I have challenged each auxiliary to donate at least 1 book for the Patriotism Through Literacy program. Youth Activities have combined with Americanism for our Special Project. If you read a book to a group, donate that book and you have fulfilled my individual challenge.

Again, the date to remember for having contest entries to me for Illustrating America and Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue, is **April 15!**

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