



2024-2025 SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

Student Participation + Recipient Recognition + Community Awareness + Increasing the Fund

NOVEMBER 2024

Now that the essay contest deadlines have passed and judging is underway at the Post, District, and Department levels, you should be thinking about how to recognize your students for their achievements. Consider scheduling an awards ceremony or luncheon or dinner at your Post or District in early January 2025. Promote your event, take photos, or invite the press, and send me a report with the photos. And plan to attend the **Department of Maryland Scholarship Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at Wells-McComas VFW Post 2678.**

“Be sure to celebrate and recognize all students, teachers, parents and members who participate in and promote these scholarships.” National Scholarship Chairman Dina Hudson.

District VFW Commanders and District VFW Auxiliary Presidents escort their students to the stage during this exciting and memorable ceremony. Who is going to win the Department Contest and move on to National?

Voice of Democracy – Patriot’s Pen: Entries for both essay contests were due to the post by October 31, 2024. Entries for both essay contests were due to District by November 15, 2024. Entries for both essay contests were both are due to Department by December 15. The winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen essay contests will be announced at the awards ceremony in January. Good luck to your students!

VFW DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND AWARDS CEREMONY on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at VFW POST 2678, 6521 North Point Road, Edgemere, MD 21219. The ceremony will start at 1300. Be sure to RSVP by January 11, 2025 to 410-752-6474. See you there!

There is still time to **donate to the Scholarship Program:**



In order to “Increase the Fund” which is one of National’s four goals this year, your auxiliary can send donations to PDP Jackie Kimball, our Department of Maryland Treasurer – earmarked “for Scholarships.” Treasurer Kimball can accept donations to either DEPARTMENT of MARYLAND or to NATIONAL.

So far, the following posts have donated to the Department of Maryland Scholarships Program: In **July** = **10078**, in **August** = **304** and **341**, in **September** = **350, 6027, 8806, and 10028. Thank You!!** PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING A DONATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM, EITHER AT THE DEPARTMENT LEVEL OR AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. YOUR DONATION WILL INCREASE THE AMOUNTS AWARDED TO OUR DESERVING STUDENTS! BE SURE TO EARMARK YOUR DONATION FOR **DEPARTMENT** OR FOR **NATIONAL**.



Update on this year’s **awards:**

1. As I receive a report from an auxiliary, I set aside a special pin for that Chairman. These special pins will be distributed at Christmas Conference and at Convention. One per auxiliary. As of October 16th, I’ve received reports from:

District 1	2632 – 20%
District 2	7757, 341 – 29%
District 3	
District 4	5246 – 20%
District 5	10146, 10028, 8672 – 50%
District 6	304, 2462 – 50%
District 7	6658, 7472, 8806, 5231, 6918, 467 – 75%
District 10	8185, 7687, 6027, 8175 – 100%
District 11	10078, 8509 – 50%
District 14	6506, 2678 – 50%
District 16	194, 8276, 10159 - 75%

Who’s going to be next? I expect to award 55 pins to our 55 auxiliaries.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DISTRICT 10 VFW AUXILIARY!

FIRST DISTRICT TO ACHIEVE 100% in REPORTING!

2. Plus, at convention next year, a \$50 cash award will be given to:
 - the auxiliary with the most Voice of Democracy entries
 - the auxiliary with the most Patriot's Pen entries
 - the auxiliary with the most Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest entries
 - the auxiliary with the most 3-D Art entries

NB: you must report your post's total number of entries received for each contest and send your report to me by April 15, 2025 in order to be eligible for these cash awards.

NEXT CONTESTS, NEXT DEADLINES -

...Applications for the VFW Auxiliary National Continuing Education Scholarship will be accepted until February 15, 2025.

...Applications for the VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest will be accepted until March 31, 2025.

...Applications for the VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest will be accepted until March 31, 2025.

Please see attached application, entry forms, and score sheets.





2024-2025 VFW Auxiliary National Continuing Education Scholarship Application

The VFW Auxiliary is pleased to present this National Scholarship to assist VFW Auxiliary members and their immediate family who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or a career direction at a vocational/technical school. One (1) scholarship will be awarded each year to a selected candidate in each of the four (4) VFW Auxiliary Conferences.

The \$1,250 scholarship shall be used in the academic year following completion of the contest. The scholarship will be paid directly to the American college/university or vocational/technical school of the awardee's choice.

Eligibility:

- **VFW Auxiliary member** for at least one full year by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- The **spouse, son and/or daughter** of a VFW Auxiliary member that has been a member at least one full year by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- Applicant must be **21** years of age or older by the application submission deadline of February 15.
- Previous National Continuing Education Scholarship winners are not eligible.

Applicant Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

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

Applicant Phone Number: _____ Applicant email: _____

Relationship to VFW Auxiliary Member: **(please circle one)** **Self** **Spouse** **Son** **Daughter**

VFW Auxiliary Member Name: _____ Date VFW Auxiliary Member joined: _____

VFW Auxiliary Member I.D. Number: _____ VFW Auxiliary No.: _____

I hereby grant permission to publish my name and photo in VFW Auxiliary Magazine, on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if named a winner in one of the top national awards. I hereby verifying that the entry was done by the applicant listed above.

Applicant Signature: _____ AGE: _____ Date: _____

**On a separate piece of paper, provide typed answers each question listed below.
All questions must be answered for the application to be considered.**

1. What is the name of the college/university or vocational/technical school you plan to attend?
2. Have you been accepted?
3. What is your intended major or course of study?
4. What is the Adjusted Gross Income from the family's Federal Income Tax return for the prior year?
5. How many dependents are in the household?
6. What are your financial reasons for applying for the Continuing Education Scholarship?
7. Have you been awarded Financial Aid from any other sources? Please list/specify.
8. Write a brief essay (no more than 300 words*) describing your commitment to your goals and how this scholarship will help you attain these goals. **Essays longer than 300 words will not be accepted.*

Email to:
info@vfwauxiliary.org with the following subject line:
Continuing Education Scholarship Application
OR mail to:
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111
Attn: Program Awards Administrator

Application due to
VFW Auxiliary
National
Headquarters
By February 15



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.

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 twelfth 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.

Revised September 2024

Page 1 of 2



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 artist's/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 twelfth 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.

Judge's Scoring Sheet

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

Criteria within the three categories can each receive up to 10 points, with 10 being the best.

Entrant:



<u>Criteria</u>	
Patriotic Expression	
Total of 30 points possible	Points
1. Concept	
2. Presentation	
3. Patriotism Expressed	
Patriotic Expression Total	
Content	
Total of 30 points possible	Points
1. Clarity of idea	
2. Elicitation of emotion	
3. Can it stand on its own	
Content Total	
Design	
Total of 40 points possible	Points
1. Technique	
2. Creativity	
3. Contrast	
4. Total impact of work	
Design Total	
Total All Points	

Judge's Comments:

Judge's Signature:

Date:



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.

Revised September 2024

Page 1 of 2



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 artist's/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.

Judge's Scoring Sheet

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

Criteria within the three categories can each receive up to 10 points, with 10 being the best.

Entrant:



Criteria

Patriotic Expression

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Concept

2. Presentation

3. Patriotism Expressed

Patriotic Expression Total

Content

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Clarity of idea

2. Elicitation of emotion

3. Can it stand on its own

Content Total

Design

Total of 40 points possible

Points

1. Technique

2. Creativity

3. Contrast

4. Total impact of work

Design Total

Total All Points

Judge's Comments:

Judge's Signature:

Date: