



DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND VFW AUXILIARY

SCHOLARSHIPS

OCTOBER 2025



Highlights

In this mailer, I will highlight info about the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essay Contests.

OK, I know we take applications to schools and places. But, did you know there is a app  **Scholar's App** that aids you in reaching out to students seeking Scholarships? Check out this 2-minute YouTube video to show you how it works!
https://youtu.be/_yTyDI2pm1M

Between the Scholarship QR and this app, what better way to connect with students than through the awareness of these resources?

As a reminder, the Department page has a wealth of information and resources available on:
www.vfwauxmd.org

What is the Theme

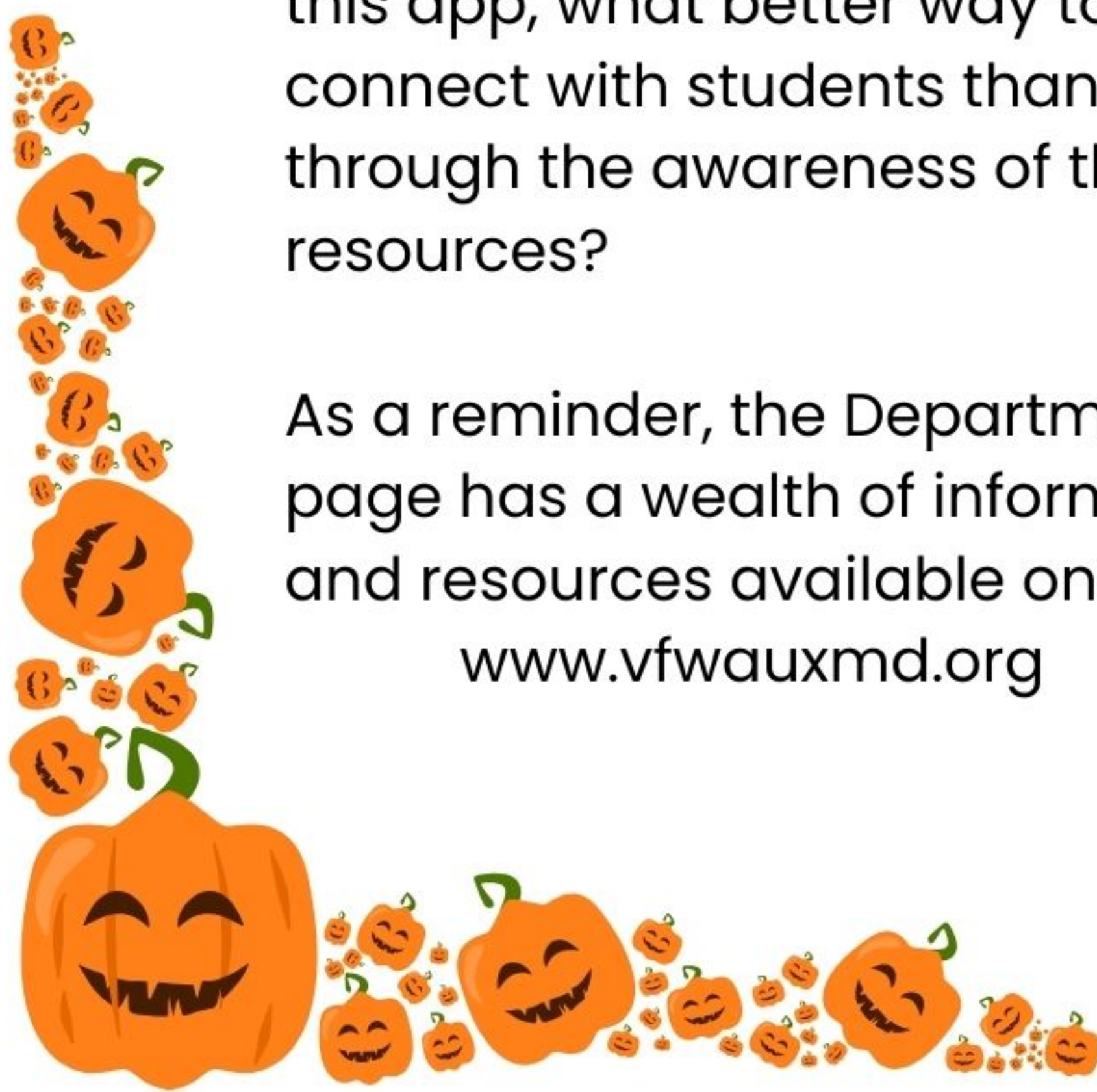
The theme for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen this year is, "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for our Country?"

Upcoming Deadlines

Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen

Local Entries Due: October 31

- **First Place Entry to District Due: November 16**
- **First Place to Department Due: December 16**





Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Deadlines

As fall arrives, the deadlines for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs are quickly approaching.

By this time, schools should be in session, and your Auxiliary should have distributed the Scholarship QR code and relevant information to counselors, teachers, coaches, churches, and any other youth organizations or family members who may wish to participate.

Voice of Democracy (Grades 9-12) Grand Prize: \$35,000 award

Students are invited to participate by writing and recording a 3-5 minute audio essay on a flash drive or other electronic device.

Additionally, they should include a typed essay and a completed entry form by deadline.

First-place winners at the Voice of Democracy Department (state) level will also receive an all-expenses-paid trip to attend the Founding Forward Spirit of America Youth Leadership program at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. During this four-day program, students will engage in mock congressional debates, participate in a free enterprise challenge, visit historical sites, and take part in interactive educational activities.



Patriot's Pen (Grades 6-8) Grand Prize: \$5,000 award

Students compete by typing in English with no color or graphics 300-400 words in length. Every word is counted regardless of the length.

Please review the Scholarship rules on the 2025-2026 Official entry form.

Student entries may be submitted (along with a completed entry form) to their local participating VFW Post.

NOTE: Inappropriate use of ChatGPT or other AI tools **are not allowed** for either contest.

Increasing the Funds for the Continuing Education Scholarship and Patriotic Fund

Kudo's to all the Auxiliaries who have been donating towards increasing the Patriotic funds as well as the National President's Special Project, Continuing Education Contest so far!

District 3: 1411; District 5: 10028; District 6: 304; District 11: 3065, 10078; District 14: 2621, 6506

Auxiliary donations of \$100 or more for Continuing Education Scholarship your Auxiliary will go into a raffle to win \$50.00 Drawings will be at the Christmas Conference and the Spring Council of Admin meeting. Donations can be made by your Treasurer in **MALTA** under Gifts, and select drop down menu "National Presidents Special Project".

Nancy Shenk

Department of MD Scholarship
Chairman

