



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarship Bulletin – August/September, 2024

[www.vfwauxmi.org](http://www.vfwauxmi.org)

Facebook Page: Scholarships-Michigan

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***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***  
***Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire***

### **Student Participation – Recipient Recognition – Community Awareness – Increasing the Fund**

Hello! I hope you have enjoyed your summer so far. Now is the time to start focusing on some of our scholarships. School will be back in session soon and teachers can help promote our programs. Other places to promote our youth programs are youth groups, sports clubs, and community forums. Does your town have a Facebook page? Put an ad on it with a number to contact for more information. The Voice of Democracy (high school) and Patriot's Pen (middle school) are the first I would like to address. The paperwork for both of these programs is available on the Dept of MI VFW website [vfwm.org](http://vfwm.org).

Themes for this year:

**VOD:** Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?

**PP:** My Voice in America's Democracy?

- VFW [Patriot's Pen Essay Contest](#). This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 6-8. The national first-place winner will receive \$5,000.
- VFW [Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest](#). This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 9-12. The national first-place winner will receive a \$35,000 scholarship.

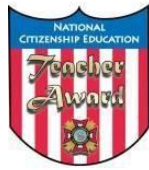
The entries are due to your post for judging Oct 31, 2024, and to the district level for judging November 15, 2024. Each entry needs to include the following paperwork: completed application, paper copy of the essay, a Student Bio form, a school release and finally a wallet sized photo. When sending your post winner to the district level please make sure you include the number of entries you had, and the amount spent on awards and recognitions. The VFW needs this information for their records.

**Teacher of the Year:** This program is also due October 31, 2024, to your post and November 15 to District. Anyone can nominate a teacher for recognition. Contact administrators, other teachers or parents to assist in getting a name for at least one of the grade categories elementary school, middle school, or high school. The application for this contest is on the VFW website also. I challenge each Auxiliary to help the post by finding a minimum of one teacher for the teacher of the year. Please include all the required paperwork listed on the application form.

The **Continuing Education Scholarship** is due in February 2025, I will send more information on this in my next bulletin.

It is not too early for promotion of the **Patriotic Art** Competition. Entries are due to the Auxiliary by March 31, 2025, and District April 15, 2025. More to come of this in later bulletins.

Don't forget to report that you promoted our programs even if you give out one application for each. Then report it. Report on attending District meetings, and Schools of Instruction as well. Please remember I am a call, email or text away. No question is a dumb question!



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