



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarship Bulletin – October/November

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Scholarships-Michigan

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

Happy Fall! I can smell pumpkin spice and burning leaves.

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to our 2024 Department 2-D Patriotic Art Winner Ana Bruck from Aux 3652 Decatur, who won 1st place at the National Level. She won a \$15,000 scholarship.

How are you “Aspiring to Inspire”? The current area of focus is the promotion of our scholarship programs. For high school students it is Voice of Democracy and Patriotic Art. For the middle school, it is Patriot’s Pen. These programs are not just for the chairman to promote. Everyone knows either a student, youth group or a school that can participate.

Things you can do to promote:

- Make up postcards with links to all our scholarships and hand them out to people at church, the grocery store or anywhere.
- Go on the schools’ websites and find teachers that teach English, Social Studies, Civics, Government or the Student Government Club. Send them the information for the PP or VOD. Find art teachers for the Patriotic Art at high schools or tech centers. For Illustrating America, contact teachers at elementary and middle schools. Follow up with contacts to the superintendent, principals, secretaries, and counselors. The more people hear of them the better.
- While you are in contact at the schools don’t forget to mention and seek names for the Teacher of the Year contest. Many of our teachers deserve recognition.
- Does your town have a community Facebook page? Put a post on it about our programs and scholarships.

This is a great time of year to hold a fundraiser event or activity to raise money for your Scholarship fund. That money can go towards awards and a recognition event. Some ideas are a bake-less bake sale, craft show, 50/50 at an event, or change canister at your canteen marked coins for kids.

Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen and Teacher of the Year entries are due to your post by October 31, 2024. Local post judging needs to be completed and the post winner(s) sent to the district chairman by November 15, 2024.

REMEMBER all entries **must** include:

- VOD: Completed application, a USB with the recorded speech, a paper copy of the speech, a Student Bio form, a School Release form, and a wallet sized photo.
- PP: Completed application, a paper copy of the speech, a Student Bio form, a School Release form, and a wallet sized photo.
- TOY: Completed form, resume (teacher bio and why they are being submitted) other supporting documents and a wallet sized photo.

Once again, this year the Department will be uploading the winner information into the ScholarApp program for you, so no worries there. We just need all the above documentation. PLEASE also send to your District chairman the number of entries you had in each contest, the number of winners, how much you spend on awards and how much you spent on other recognition (meal).

Did you attend the Fall Conference, and/or School of Instruction? REPORT it. Did you attend your District meetings or District school of instruction? REPORT it. Did you promote each of the scholarships? REPORT it. Did you do any fundraising or provide funding for the scholarships? REPORT it. Did you share our scholarships with your community? Did you ask any community leadership to come and speak at your awards ceremony? REPORT it.

Thank you for supporting our programs but most importantly our students. Looking forward to hearing and reading all the District winner entries in December.

Stay Safe!

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