

# Youth Activities at your fingertips!





# Youth Activities

## Auxiliary Award No. 1

### Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism Through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.).
  - **Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
  - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention

**Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2024.**

Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

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Department Youth Activities Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature)*

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Youth Activities Ambassador Joyce Caldwell for judging.

**AND**

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org) a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed.





# Get Excited for the **Red, White and Blue!**

## VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest for eligible students in grades K-12

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



### 2023-2024 Contest Entry Form

Please **print** or complete fillable form at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org)  
This form must be submitted with the video entry at all levels of judging.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*I certify that all the contest requirements have been met and that I am the sole author of the attached/enclosed video entry. By entering the contest, I grant the VFW Auxiliary royalty-free rights to use, edit, share, publish and broadcast my contest video entry for the Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! national anthem singing contest for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary. I understand the video will not be sold but will remain the property of the VFW Auxiliary.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: \* \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Representative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative email: \_\_\_\_\_

**This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.**  
**National Headquarters only accepts Department level first-place winners.**  
Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate grade division.

**This first place entry is for grad division: Grade K-8 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_**

**March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**April 15:** One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Level** - Department first-place entry must be received at  
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by **May 5** or it will be disqualified.  
ATTN: Program Awards Administrator





# Get Excited for the **Red, White and Blue!**

VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest  
for eligible students in grades K-12

## 2023-2024

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



Entry will be judged on vocal ability, mastery of lyrics, originality or interpretation and entertainment value.

### Contest Eligibility

- Open to students in grades **K-12** by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial school or home study 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 residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students and students aged 20 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous *Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!* students may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous National winner.

### Contest Rules

- One entry per contestant.
- Video of contestant's solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner must be recorded between **July 1, 2023 and March 31 2024**.
- 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.

## VFW Auxiliary National Awards

### Grades K-8

First place: \$500 gift card  
Second place: \$300 gift card  
Third place: \$200 gift card

### Grades 9-12

First place: \$500 gift card  
Second place: \$300 gift card  
Third place: \$200 gift card

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected or poor-quality video entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

To acquire contact information and application assistance in your state please email [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

### VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner from each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners from each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of winners via the email address provided on the entry form. First through third place winners named in each of the two grade divisions on VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters social media pages and shown at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.





# VFW Auxiliary National

## Illustrating America Art Contest

An art contest for eligible students in grades K-8

### 2023-2024

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*I hereby grant permission of the artwork by the student listed above to be published 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 of one of the top national awards. I hereby verifying that the entry was done by the student listed above.*

Parent/Guardian signature: \* \_\_\_\_\_

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

#### Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Representative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative email: \_\_\_\_\_

**This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.**  
**VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters only accepts Department level first place winners.**  
Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate grade division.

**This first-place entry is for: Grade K-2 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 3-5 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 6-8 \_\_\_\_\_**

**March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Artwork is property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.*

**April 15:** One winner from each grade division in each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Artwork is 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** - Department winning entries in each grade division must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or they will be disqualified.

**July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**September:** All art will be returned to address on entry form.





# VFW Auxiliary National

## Illustrating America Art Contest

### An Art contest for eligible students in grades K-8

### 2023-2024

The VFW National Auxiliary is pleased to present this National art contest to introduce, encourage and recognize young artists with patriotism through art. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique.

#### Contest Eligibility

- Students in grades K-8 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home study 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 residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students and students aged 15 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous Illustrating America contests may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous national winner.

#### Contest Rules

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, glitter, marker or other media may be used.
- Entry must be two dimensional.
- Entry must be on canvas or paper.
- Do not frame art.
- 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.
- Entries may not be smaller than 8" x 10" and not larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.
- Complete contest entry form and submit with art entry.
- Parent or guardian signature required on contest entry form.
- If the American Flag is used, it **DOES NOT** need to conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors or numbers of stars and stripes.
- Coloring sheets, digital art and photography and are **NOT** accepted.

#### Awards for Grades K-2

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

#### Awards for Grades 3-5

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

#### Awards for Grades 6-8

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

To acquire contact information and application assistance in your state please email [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

#### VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners in each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- **September:** All art entries will be returned to address on entry form.





# Illustrating America Art Contest

A VFW Auxiliary National art contest  
for eligible students in grades K-8

## Student Artwork Release Form

### Please Print Artist/Student Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

### For minors (under the age of 18) Parent/Guardian Information:

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*I affirm that I am the Parent/Guardian of the minor listed above and permission is given to enter the artwork in the VFW Auxiliary National Illustrating America Art Contest. The VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be the cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

**Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed on the entry form if not advancing to the next level of judging.**

Please provide the below information and present it to the entrant upon receiving the art entry.

-----CUT HERE-----

### Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary Contact information

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_  
VFW Aux. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_  
1<sup>st</sup> VFW Auxiliary Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
2<sup>nd</sup> VFW Auxiliary Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**Judge's Scoring Sheet**  
**Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue**  
**U.S. National Anthem Singing Contest**



**Contestant:**

**Grade Division (circle one):**    **K-8**    **9-12**

**Criteria**

**Vocal Ability: 40 points possible**

Vocal Technique (pitch, range, intonation, tone quality and breath support)

Rhythm & Tempo (voice in relation to music)

**Vocal Ability Total**

**Mastery of Lyrics: 30 points possible**

No errors or lapses in memory

Clear pronunciation of words

**Mastery of Lyrics Total**

**Originality/Interpretation: 15 points possible**

Arrangement appropriate for selected genre

**Originality/Interpretation Total**

**Entertainment Value: 15 points possible**

Reaction to the overall performance

**Entertainment Value Total**

**Total All Points**

**Judge's Comments:**

**Judge's Signature:**

**Date:**



# Judge's Scoring Sheet

## Illustrating America

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

**Entrant:**

**Grade Division (circle one):**    **K-2**    **3-5**    **6-8**



### Criteria

#### Patriotic Expression

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Concept	
2. Presentation	
3. Patriotism Expressed	
<b>Patriotic Expression Total</b>	

#### Content

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Clarity of idea	
2. Elicitation of emotion	
3. Can it stand on its own	
<b>Content Total</b>	

#### Design

Total of 40 points possible

Points

1. Use of space	
2. Balance	
3. Creativity	
4. Total impact of work	
<b>Design Total</b>	

#### **Total All Points**

Judge's Comments:


**Judge's Signature:**

**Date:**



**Judge's Scoring Sheet**  
**Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue**  
**U.S. National Anthem Singing Contest**



**Contestant:**

**Grade Division (circle one):**    **K-8**    **9-12**

**Criteria**

**Vocal Ability: 40 points possible**

Vocal Technique (pitch, range, intonation, tone quality and breath support)

Rhythm & Tempo (voice in relation to music)

**Vocal Ability Total**

**Mastery of Lyrics: 30 points possible**

No errors or lapses in memory

Clear pronunciation of words

**Mastery of Lyrics Total**

**Originality/Interpretation: 15 points possible**

Arrangement appropriate for selected genre

**Originality/Interpretation Total**

**Entertainment Value: 15 points possible**

Reaction to the overall performance

**Entertainment Value Total**

**Total All Points**

Judge's Comments:

**Judge's Signature:**

**Date:**





**This book is a gift from**

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**In honor of  
Carla Martinez  
2023-2024 National President  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**



**This book is a gift from**

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**In honor of  
Carla Martinez  
2023-2024 National President  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**



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Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary**



# Patriotism Through Literacy

## Book Suggestions

Note: grade/age levels are suggested based on publisher's guidelines, school curriculums and reading/comprehension levels, not rules. Interest levels & ability vary by student. Updated: 2022

### Pre-K-Kindergarten

*John, Paul, George, and Ben* by Lane Smith  
*I Am* series (*I Am Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, etc.*) by Brad Metzger  
*The White House: A Pop-Up Book of Our Nation's Home* by Robert Sabuda  
*Red, White, and BOOM!* by Lee Wardlaw  
*America the Beautiful* by Katharine Lee Bates  
*God Bless America* by Irving Berlin, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger  
*The Scrambled States of America* by Laurie Keller  
*This Land is Your Land* by Woodie Guthrie & Kathy Jakobsen  
*Wow, America!* by Robert Neubecker  
*My Little Golden Book about Kamala Harris* by Rajani LaRocca  
*My Little Golden Book about The White House* by Jen Arena  
*Sesame Street: Elmo Doodle Dandy* (A Little Golden Book) by Naomi Kleinberg  
*Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops* by Jill Biden  
*My Red Balloon & Dandelions* by Eve Bunting  
*Blue Sky, White Stars* by Sarvinder Naberhaus & Kadir Nelson  
*A is for America: A Patriotic Alphabet Book* by Tanya Lee Stone

### Grades 1-2

#### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad* by Ellen Levine  
*The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles  
*Stars and Stripes: The Story of the American Flag* by Sarah L. Thomson  
*What the Big Deal About First Ladies?* by Ruby Shamir  
*Harriet's Ruffled Feathers* by Joy McCullough  
*Turning Pages: My Life Story* by Sonia Sotomayor  
*Rescue & Jessica* by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes  
*I Could Do That: How Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote* by Linda White  
*Show Way* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Tuesday Tucks Me In* by Luis Carlos Montalvan  
*They Called Her Molly Pitcher* by Anne Rockwell  
*Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki  
*Martin's Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport  
*Ben Franklin: Wit & Wisdom from A-Z* by Alan Schroeder

#### Educational/Americana & Historical Fiction:

*Happy Birthday, America* by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Apple Pie 4<sup>th</sup> of July* by Janet S. Wong  
*If I Were President* by Catherine Stier  
*Tricking the Tallyman* by Jacqueline Davis  
*Ellie May on President's Day* by Hillary Homzie  
*This is a Rope: A Story from the Great Migration* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*The Flag We Love* by Pam Munoz Ryan



## Grades 3-4

### Historical Fiction:

*Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*I Survived* series (*Gettysburg, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, 9/11, etc.*) by Lauren Tarshis  
*American Girl* original series & *American Girl History's Mysteries* by various authors  
*If You Were a Kid During the American Revolution* by Will Mara  
*The Captive* by Joyce Hansen  
*Magic Treehouse Mysteries* series by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh* by Uma Krishnaswami  
*Capital Mysteries* series by Ron Roy

### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Magic Treehouse Fact Trackers* series by Mary Pope Osborne  
*A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women* by Lynne Cheney  
*Shh! We're Writing the Constitution* by Jean Fritz  
*Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the Fastest Woman...* by Kathleen Krull  
*She Persisted* series (*Maya Lin, Maria Tallchief, Patsy Mink, etc.*) by various authors  
*A Splash of Red: The Life & Art of Horace Pippin* by Jen Bryant  
*Who Was/What Was* series, (*George Washington, the White House, Sacagawea, etc.*)  
*Little Legends* series by Vashti Harrison  
*The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and her Tribute to Veterans* by Barbara E. Walsh

### Educational Americana:

*America's White Table* by Margot Theis Raven  
*Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America* by Lynne Cheney  
*We the Kids* by David Catrow  
*I Have a Dream* by Martin Luther King, Jr., illustrated by Kadir Nelson  
*We Are America: A Tribute from the Heart* by Walter Dean Myers

## Grades 5-6

### Historical Fiction:

*Towers Falling* and *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes  
*Keeping Score* by Linda Sue Park  
*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon M. Draper  
*Show Me a Sign* by Ann-Clare LeZotte  
*Red, White & Whole* by Rajani LaRocca  
*My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Zoboi  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor  
*Worth* by Alexandria LaFaye  
*The Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord  
*One Crazy Summer* trilogy by Rita Williams Garcia  
*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
*Nine, Ten, a September 11<sup>th</sup> Story* by Nora Raleigh Baskin  
*Planet Earth is Blue* by Nicole Panteleakos  
*The True History of Lyndie B. Hawkins* by Gail Shephard  
*Bud, Not Buddy* and *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis

### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Stamped (for Kids)* by Sonja Cherry Paul, Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi  
*Rocket to the Moon* by Don Brown  
*History Smashers* series by Kate Messner  
*It's Up to You, Abe Lincoln* by Leila and Tom Hirschfeld

## Grades 7-8

### Historical Fiction:

*Dear America* series by various authors  
*Home is With Our Family* by Joyce Hansen  
*Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes  
*Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata  
*Fever 1793* and *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar  
*Five Children on the Western Front* by Kate Saunders  
*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse  
*We Dream of Space* by Erin Entrada Kelly  
*Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson  
*Betty Before X* by Ilyasah Shabazz  
*The Notorious Benedict Arnold...* by Steve Sheinkin  
*All the Stars Denied* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

### Non-Fiction & Memoir:

*Amelia Lost: The Life & Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming  
*Grasping Mysteries: Girls Who Loved Math* by Jeannine Atkins  
*Lifting As We Climb* by Evette Dionne  
*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings* by Margarita Engel  
*Hidden Figures: The American Dream & the Untold Story...* by Margot Lee Shetterly  
*What Was the Continental Congress?* and *Clara Barton* by Candice Ransom

## Grades 9-12

### Historical Fiction:

*Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution* by Avi  
*Butterfly Yellow* by Thanhha Lai  
*Girls Like Us* by Randi Pink  
*So Many Beginnings* by Bethany Morrow  
*The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee  
*We Are Not Free* by Traci Chee  
*The Memory of Things* by Gae Polisner  
*Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malindo Lo  
*A Very Large Expanse of Sea* by Tehera Mafi  
*Fly Girl* by Sherri L. Smith

### Non-Fiction & Memoir:

*Pure Grit: How American WWII Nurses Survived Battle...* by Mary Cronk Farrell  
*Chester Nez: A Navajo Codetalker's Story* by Joseph Bruchac  
*Code Talker Stories* by Lauren Tohe  
*Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom...* by Lynda Blackmon Lowery  
*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose  
*Loving Vs. Virginia* by Patricia Hruby Powell  
*Stamped* by Jason Reynolds  
*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson  
*Fly Girls: Forgotten Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII* by P. O'Connell Pearson  
*Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space* by Lynn Sherr  
*Black Birds in the Sky* by Brandy Colbert  
*They Call Us Enemy* by George Takei  
*Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow





# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

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# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



# 10 Tips for Working with Youth

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

When working with youth, it is important to consider their safety and needs. We would like to offer these tips and resources so you can ensure that all youth you encounter have the best experience possible.

1. Consider taking Youth Protection training. Many organizations working with youth provide and require training. One of the most comprehensive is by the Boy Scouts. You do not need to be a member or even involved with the program in order to take their free online training. Find it here: <http://www.scouting.org/Training/youthprotection.aspx>
2. Always respect the time commitments of youth. They are very busy. Be clear about when an event or project starts and when it ends. Parents also very much appreciate it when their child is finished at the stated time.
3. Parents should always be welcome to stay and take part in the activity.
4. No matter the project or event, make sure that proper safety measures are taken for everyone involved. Also, be sure that activities or projects are age appropriate.
5. Be extremely conscious of the location where you bring or meet the youths.
6. Do not smoke, drink or use drugs around them.
7. If you are taking youth somewhere other than the Post home or a school, consider asking parents to sign a permission slip and make sure parents understand that the children may be riding in personal vehicles.
8. Receive training from your local Child Abuse Prevention Council or Child Protective Center on the Mandated Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Laws in your state for those working with children.
9. Find out if you need to have individuals working with youth/children fingerprinted before events. There may be laws in your state that require background checks.
10. Maintain and model healthy boundaries with children - be a role model. Remember it is never appropriate to display acts of violence or abuse around or towards children.

Remember that it only takes a minute to make a difference in the life of a child. There are many small, positive things we can all do to help protect and nurture our children that only take a minute. A few words of praise and encouragement to a child, listening carefully to what a child has to say, showing a child you care, are all simple actions that have been shown to have a profound impact on a child's life. In these very real ways, we can all support children and strengthen families.



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Auxiliary

Youth Group

Supporting Our Veterans

presented to

In recognition and appreciation  
of your support for our veterans  
and their families.  
**2023-2024**

  
National President

  
National Secretary



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

*Patriotic Youth Award*

PRESENTED TO

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YOUR ACTIONS AND DEEDS ARE APPRECIATED AND COMMENDED  
BY THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY.

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AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

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DATE



**MICHIGAN VFW CAMP TROTTER**  
**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
POST OR AUX. # \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$50.00 PAID BY:

IS THIS A GIFT: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ SEND TO ADDRESS IN LIEU OF ABOVE ADDRESS:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

USE ONE BLANK FORM PER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SEND TO:                                **DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
   **CAMP TROTTER LIFE MEMBERSHIP**  
   **924 N. WASHINGTON AVE.**  
   **LANSING, MI 48906**

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY:

DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE MAILED \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

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