



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Scholarships-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Welcome to the 2023-2024 VFW Auxiliary Scholarship program and congratulation on being chosen as this year's chairman. Being the chairman of this program brings lots of opportunities for your auxiliary to engage with the youth of your community. The focus of your role is to promote participation of the auxiliary, promote participation of students, recognition of the students, teachers, and schools in the programs. Assisting the VFW with the promotion of the scholarships within the community with achieve success of the programs. Completion of the programs meets the goals.

Continuing Education:

Continuing Education Scholarship: This program is open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son, or daughter. Entrants must be at least 21 years old, complete the application, and submit an essay. The application must be received at National Headquarters by February 15, 2024. Four \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded.

Patriotic Art:

1. Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest: This two-dimensional contest is open to any student in grades 9-12, who is a U.S. Citizen or U.S. National. The applicant does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member but must attend school in the same Department as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. Entries will be judged on Patriotic theme and technique. One Michigan winner will be forwarded to National. Please refer to the student brochure that can be found at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for more details on requirements for artwork and the application.
2. 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest: Refer to the guidelines listed above in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest.

Deadlines for both contests: Local Auxiliary – March 31, 2024, Department – April 15, 2024

Donations to the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund are a vital part of this program to help increase the awards for this contest. The goal is to increase the number and dollar amounts of the awards. Your auxiliary's participation in a fundraiser will help with this cause.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen:

1. **Assist VFW Post with Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest:** Theme: What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy? The contest is open to all students, including home schooled students, in grades 9-12. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. A theme is assigned by the National VFW every year. Students write and then record their original 3-5-minute essay on the theme announced on an audio CD or flash drive. Please refer to the student brochure that can be found at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for complete details on requirements and

application for contest.

2. **2023-24 Assist VFW Post with Patriot's Pen Essay Contest:** Theme: How are you Inspired by America? The contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 6-8. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. Student must write an original 300-400-word essay on the National Theme. Please refer to the student brochure at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for complete details on requirements and application for contest.

Deadlines-Student submits to Post by **Oct. 31, 2023**. Post submits to the District by **November 15, 2023** (for both VOD and PP).

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department Scholarships Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at infor@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citation will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary.
 - The Department Scholarships Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Scholarships Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- ✓ Best promotion of the Scholarship Program in each membership category
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of 2-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best promotion of 3-Dimensional Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest in each membership category. Auxiliary must send the required National Entry Form to the Department Chairman.
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of Voice of Democracy
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of Patriots Pen Program
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promoted/participated in the Continuing Education Scholarship Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to the Continuing Education Scholarship?		
Promoted/participated in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship.		
How many students submitted art entries for judging.		
How many art entries sent on to Department for judging.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship.		
Promoted/participated in the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship.		
How many students submitted 3-Dimensional art entries for judging		
How many 3-Dimensional art entries sent on to Department for judging.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship.		
Did your Auxiliary assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Patriot's pen Essay Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary hold an award ceremony for to recognize awardees and participants in any /all contests.		
How much money amount did your Auxiliary spend for recognizing the participants and the awards.		

Denise Arnold
 9525 E River Rd
 Mt Pleasant, MI 48858
 989-621-0327
 dmarnold65@gmail.com

Scholarship and Contest Resources

VFW website: www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education
 VFW Auxiliary website: www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships
 Department website: www.vfwauxmi.org/scholarships
 VFW Store: www.vfwstore.org