

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities & Camp Trotter Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Youth Activities/Camp Trotter - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups - Patriotism through Literacy - Illustrating America

Youth Activities:

This year we will again participate in Illustrating America, Patriotism through Literacy and Sponsoring/working with youth groups.

Illustrating America:

The Illustrating America due dates (see first bulletin) have moved up significantly so you will want to begin working on this project early! Information about this will be posted on the Department website in the youth program as soon as it is received. Please do not print the information until you have been notified it is the most up-to-date (Facebook/Bulletin/Email).

Patriotism Through Literacy:

In addition, our National Award focuses not just on participating in Patriotism through Literacy but hosting a lending library! The more creative you get with this, the more fun it will be. Please be sure you can maintain this library in your community before you decide to start one! Maybe you can work with a youth group to host this library and keep it up!

Citations/RAP Cards:

You'll also want to focus on handing out "Youth Group Supporting Our Veterans" Citations and Random Acts of Patriotism cards. We all like to be acknowledged and as a child, it's always great when it is by an adult! Any time you bring a youth group in to help with a project/program you can provide these citations/RAP cards!

Camp Trotter:

This year we will not be hosting a Camp Trotter table. We ask that instead of spending money on items to raffle off, you gather what you would have spent and donate to the scholarship fund. Camp will cost \$475 per person this year and that does not cover the weekly cost of a camper. Helping to offset this cost will be more beneficial to the camp.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation of Merit and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2027 for judging.

Department Awards

1. Citation of Merit and \$10 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.
2. Best overall working with and/or sponsoring youth groups. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
3. Best overall promotion/participation in Illustrating America art contest. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
4. Best overall promotion/participation in Camp Trotter program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Number of youth groups you worked with this program year		
Number of youth your auxiliary worked with this program year		
Number of "Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans" Citations Awarded		
Created an Auxiliary sponsored lending library		
Number of books donated in participation of Patriotism through Literacy		
Promoted Illustrating America Art Contest		
Number of Students who submitted art entries for Illustrating America		
Number of entries submitted to Department for judging		
Hosted an award ceremony for Illustrating America winners and participants		
Total amount/value of awards for Illustrating America		
Made a scholarship donation to Camp Trotter (including amount)		
Purchased a life membership to Camp Trotter		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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