



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary SCHOLARSHIPS BULLETIN October/November 2019

www.vfwauxmi.org

National Theme: *Serving Our Veterans with Aloha*
Department Theme: *Serving with a Patriot's Heart*

Your Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen contests should be in full swing and all entries MUST be received at the Post level by midnight on October 31st. Your Post/Auxiliary then has until November 15th to conduct your judging before sending your winners unto the District level. If you have not contacted judges yet, I encourage you to do so. Try and have judges from outside the organization such as teachers/superintendents, local business owners, police/firefighters and local judges and politicians.

Once you have completed your judging and forwarded your entries to your District, start to think about how you want to recognize the students who have participated. Recognition is key, it is important that scholarship and contest winners receive recognition at all levels. Here are some ideas on what you can do at your local level:

- Present a certificate and/or gift
- Ask the winner to give speech or lead the Pledge of Allegiance at an Auxiliary event
- Host an awards ceremony
- Present awards at a school assembly
- Contact local media to feature winners in the news, sample press releases are available online at www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources
- Don't forget to recognize the parents and teachers

Make sure you are reporting in detail all you have done with Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen, including number of members involved and number of hours volunteered. Also be sure to report how you recognized the awardees and participants in these contests.

Remember why we do what we do... Each of our scholarships encourages patriotism, assists in attaining an education and helps students reach their full potential. This increases VFW and Auxiliary recognition while supporting our communities, students and members.

Thank you for ALL you do!

Please make sure you are reporting all you do and be as detailed as possible.

NOVEMBER

Now that you have finished with the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Contests it is time to shift our focus to the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. Hopefully you have already reached out to schools and students with this information, but if not – DO IT TODAY! Remember there is NO DISTRICT JUDGING for this contest. You will need to mail entries directly to the Department Chairman. The deadline for your local Auxiliary is March 31st and **entries need to be mailed to me by April 15th.**

NEW this year:

National Scholarships:

First Place - \$15,000

Second Place - \$7,500

Third Place - \$3,500

Fourth and Fifth Place - \$1,500

Sixth through Ninth Place - \$500

Also remember to stress the additional forms of art.

Two-dimensional art:

- Must be on canvas or paper.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media may be used.
- Do not frame two-dimensional pieces.
- Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- Other entries must be matted in white.
- Do not use color mats. Reinforce the back with heavy paper.
- Mounted and floating mats may also be used.
- The art should be no smaller than 8"x10" but no larger than 18"x 24", not including mat.

Three-dimensional art:

- Can be paper, papier-Mache, pottery, sculpture, fabric, wood, metal work, etc.
- Pieces should be no larger than 18" in any direction.
- Art cannot be more than 5lbs. in weight.

Digital art, photography and jewelry are not accepted.

Help fund the artists of tomorrow – Help increase the Young American Creative Patriotic Art awards! Send a donation of any amount to add to the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund. The goal is to increase the number and dollar amount of the awards. To donate by mail, send a **check earmarked Patriotic Art** to:

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

Attn: Patriotic Art Fund

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