

# SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

## Program Goals:

- Student Participation
- Recipient Recognition
- Community Awareness
- Increasing the Fund

### DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME

*"Building Bridges for Our Veterans"*

### NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME

*"From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep us Free"*

I am honored and excited to be the Scholarship Chairperson this year and looking forward to sharing and working with Auxiliaries not only in promoting the five scholarship programs (detailed below) to students, members, and families, but recognizing them as well. A major focus this year is bringing awareness and participation in the Continuing Education program. Did you know this program is for Members and their immediate family members?

Get the word out through various forms of communication; word of mouth, social media, public and private schools, churches, news outlets, youth sports groups, Auxiliary meetings, membership and Buddy Poppy drives - the list goes on and on. Invite everyone you meet to participate, print out the QR code (found at the end of this page). Find ways your Auxiliary can contribute to increasing the scholarship awards funds. Look for additional information and resources on the Department Program website and the National website under Scholarships and contests <https://vfwauxiliary.org>

### Continuing Education

Deadline – Submit directly to the National Headquarters by February 15. Send to [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org) or mail to Program Awards Administrator, VFW Auxiliary national Headquarters, 406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education/>

### Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests

2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional open to students in grades 9-12.

Deadlines – to the Auxiliary March 31; to the Department Chair April 15<sup>th</sup>. Entries are judged on patriotic theme and technique.

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/>

Special instructions for 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest: Careful packaging is extremely important to protect the student's priceless artwork to avoid damage during shipping. There is a "new" requirement this year - a color photo must accompany the entry. If the artwork is damaged during shipping the judges can still see what the art was meant to look like.

### Voice of Democracy

Theme: *"How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"*

A Verbal essay between 3-5 minutes long with a printed copy included with the application.

Open to students in grades 9-12. Deadline to the local VFW Post is 31 October. Work with your Post assisting with promoting the scholarship and recognizing students and teachers.

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

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## **Patriots Pen**

Theme: *"How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"*

A written essay between 300 and 400 words long.

Open to students in grades 6-8. Deadline to the local VFW Post is 31 October. Work with your Post assisting with promoting the scholarship and recognizing students and teachers.

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



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## **Department Auxiliary Awards:**

One award will be given in each of the membership classes for the most creative and/or unique activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

**Entry form is required** and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

## **National Auxiliary Awards:**

### **Awards for Auxiliaries:**

Most creative and/or unique activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most creative and/or unique activity and/or event educating their community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging.

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, 2026 for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

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