

# SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

## Program Goals:

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

### DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME

*"Stand Up, Speak Out"*

### NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME

*"Banding Together For Veterans"*

Let me start this year by telling you all how honored I am to be your Department Chairman for Scholarships. In today's world, the importance of education is paramount. So, I am hoping in the following message you will understand how I see my beliefs on how we can achieve our goals for the coming year.

We are coming to a time where without continuing education the quality of life will be threatened. We need to get the teachers involved and excited enough to want to help their students to obtain one of the scholarships we offer. And in doing this we will get the STUDENT PARTICIPATION that we need.

STUDENT RECOGNITION is of the utmost importance. In this way we are letting the students know no matter what point of view they have or how small or great their essay or artwork is THEY MATTER to us and all our members.

The young people of today are not aware of all the VFW and VFW Auxiliary can do for them when it comes to increasing their education. It is necessary today to educate parents. By that I mean they are the front line when it comes to instilling the want for knowledge in their children. In doing COMMUNITY AWARENESS, we can reach those parents.

We are offering the opportunity to help with that education, and to do this we need to acquire the cooperation of the schools in our prospective areas. We need to get the teachers involved and excited enough to want to help their students to obtain one of the scholarships we offer. And in doing this we will get the student participation that we need.

The cost of education will continue to increase. So, we need to expand on letting everyone know that any opportunity to obtain any kind of scholarship help is important. By recognizing the students work with certificates, or some other form, we promote Recognition.

- **Patriots Pen Essay** for grades 6-8. Get with the teachers and encourage them to get their students to participate in this. By doing this we let the young know we care about their views on *"How Are You Inspired by America"*.
- **Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest** for grades 9-12. We again need the full cooperation of the teachers to get their students to participate. We want all students to understand we are interested in their views on *"What Are the Attributes Of Our Democracy"*. We all know every class has that student with the fire and grit to want to enter. And these

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teachers know who they are. (Be sure you stress the fact that these essays must be at your Post by 10/31/2023)

- **Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art contest.** This contest is open to grades 9-12. Get with the Art teachers at your local schools to promote Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art contest. I am sure these Art Teachers all have gifted students that they would love to have enter this contest. Your encouragement might be all that is needed to get these entries. (Deadline on these contests entries to be at Post by 3/31/2024)

Finally, we need to be sure we are all doing our part to Increase the funds that make these Scholarships available. Never forgetting that every dollar counts. We have a big job to promote these contests and we have the honor to be part of the furthering education of many up-and-coming young Americans.

## DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES:

1. **Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary.**
  - Special Award to one (1) Auxiliary in each of the 4 classes for Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW 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.
2. **Certificate to all Auxiliaries who have promoted the following:**
  - Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest and Patriots Pen Essay Contest.
  - Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest.

## NATIONAL AWARDS:

### AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

3. **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 VFE 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. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
  - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that submits most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

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