



Scholarship Report

August 2018

The “Dog Days of Summer” are over and those hot lazy days are ending - its time to start promoting our Scholarship Program! I have been busy visiting some of our districts introducing myself as well as sharing information about our Scholarship contests.

I attended both District 1 ‘s School of Instruction as well as their first District meeting and spoke to the Auxiliary Presidents sharing information about our Scholarships Program.

I also had the pleasure of attending District 3 ‘s Official Visit as part of Department of California Auxiliary President Ellie’s entourage. What a great welcome they gave us! My visual presentation includes wearing a Cap and Gown to represent the potential that our scholarships can be for our nations youth. I delivered the information found on the “ Scholarships at a Glance” flyer which is a quick and easy to read bulletin of information on our 4 scholarships. I also gave each of the District 3 Scholarship Chairmen a small token of appreciation which was a candy bag filled with “Dum Dums and Smarties’ . My motto is - Don’t be a ” dum dum “ be a “smarty” and apply for our scholarships!



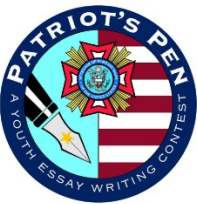
The VFW and Auxiliary are dedicated to promoting patriotism and investing in our future generation. Let me introduce you to 2 of our essay contest Scholarships:



Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen

It's time to start spreading the word to as many people as possible regarding information on our 2-essay contests: **The Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen** contests, both of which have an entry **deadline of October 31** to your local VFW Posts.

The Voice of Democracy is an audio-essay contest with the theme of **"Why My Vote Matters"** for grades 9-12. Established in 1947, this audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves regarding a democratic and patriotic themed recorded essay. Each year nearly 440,000 9-12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of \$2.1 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program.



The **Patriot's Pen** is a written essay contest with a theme of **"Why I Honor the Flag"** for grades 6-8. Each year more than 132,000 students enter this youth essay contest. The national first place winner wins \$5,000 and an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$55,000, with each first-place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level.

A complete list of all contest rules can be found in the following resources:

- VFW website: www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education
- VFW Auxiliary website: www.vfwauxillary.org/scholarships
- Promotions from our National Ambassador
- VFW Store: www.vfw.org or 1-800-821-2606

Please be aware that these are VFW sponsored contests and the Auxiliary assists the Posts with these scholarship contests. Be sure you understand the rules for each Scholarship contest before you speak with school representatives, teachers, students and parents, youth groups and members of the community about the contest.

Community awareness of our scholarship contests should be a top goal. What a wonderful financial opportunity for our youth these scholarships can provide!

Some suggestions on ways to inform our youth are:

- send **a press release** to your local newspapers describing the contest rules and award amounts

- Place **posters** (available at the vfw store) in local stores, schools, libraries, community centers
- **Social media**- Facebook your friends, and post information on your post/Auxiliary websites

Remember all of the resources you need- contest applications, the “Scholarships at a glance”, rules and regulations can be found on the national website: www.vfwauxiliary.org

Be sure to send me a report of the wonderful work you are doing! I look forward to reading about your efforts to promote our Scholarships program!