


September Scholarship Bulletin

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Summer has come and gone, Labor Day is over, so that means its time to put away the white pants  and get ready to “go back to school”!



“Go back to our schools” to promote our Scholarship Program that is!

Now is the time to contact schools in your community to discuss the wonderful opportunities that our Scholarships can provide. The VFW and Auxiliary offers Scholarship contests that can help our students “Believe that they can do it”! Students can believe in their dreams of attending an institution for higher learning if they have money to help them afford it. Scholarship money can provide the stepping stones to enable our youth to finance their educations. Let’s work together with our Comrades to help promote our Programs. Scholarship Chairmen should offer support where needed. Many Posts and Auxiliary Chairmen visit schools together, speaking to Administrators, Counselors, Teachers, as well as to the students and parents. Be sure to use social media strategies to help share information.

Auxiliary Chairmen be sure to work closely with your VFW Post Scholarship Chairman. Keep the lines of communication open. Try to encourage judges to participate from your local community, this gives them an opportunity to learn more about our Scholarship Programs as well as what our VFW Auxiliaries are all about. Together you can accomplish your goals to successfully promote the Scholarships Program.



Scholarship Bulletin Boards-

Why not create a Scholarship Bulletin Board at your Post? Be creative and design a bulletin board where your members and guests can find all our Scholarship information in one place. I designed one that has pockets made out of folders and placed them on a cork board filled with the different applications. Members can grab applications and other information as needed. I'd love to see your creative ideas that you have developed to help make the scholarship information readily visible. Be sure to send me pictures of your Scholarship bulletin space that you have created in your Post and include them in your reports.

Why not try Department of California Auxiliary President Ellie's 360-degree Compass logo as a template to show the students the direction their futures can go by entering our Scholarship contests!

There are **four scholarship contests to promote:**

- Voice of Democracy
- Patriot's Pen
- Continuing Education
- Young American Creative Patriotic Art

Patriot Pen and the Voice of Democracy have a submission deadline to your local Posts by midnight October 31



Voice of Democracy highlights:

- **Theme: "WHY My Vote Matters"**
- Open to students in grade levels- 9th thru 12
- Contest is an Audio- Essay

Students must be a resident of the state where entered. All Department winners will enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. where their essays will compete in the final competition.



Award amount: 1st place winner for the National Voice of Democracy is \$30,000!



Patriots Pen- highlights:

- **Theme: “Why I honor the American Flag”?**
- Open to all students in grade levels 6th thru 8th grade
- Essay length- 300 to 400 typed words

Students must be resident of the state where entered.



Award amount: National Awards total \$54,000- 1st place National Award winner is \$5,000!

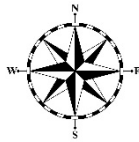
Now is the time to make sure you are doing all you can to promote these contests!

Some ways you can accomplish this is by:

- Using **Social media**- is one of the best ways to reach our youth and their parents, ex.- Facebook, twitter, Instagram, snapchat etc.

- **post information-** about the scholarships on your local VFW and Auxiliary website and on our Department Facebook page
- **post flyers and posters in your community-** restaurants, libraries, community-based organizations – youth centers, local family resource centers, churches etc.
- **Press releases-**submit press releases to your local papers

Go to the VFW Auxiliary National website at www.vfwauxiliary.org to access scholarship information including applications and brochures. Additional resources to help you in your promotions of the program can be found at the vfw store- www.vfwstore.org



Let's use Department of California Auxiliary President Ellie's Compass to help guide our youth to take the high road to success by encouraging them to apply for our Scholarships!

I look forward to reading your REPORTS!!!!!!