

## **SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM PROMOTION #4**

### **FEBRUARY 2025**

Certainly one of the high points of the VFW and Auxiliary Scholarships Program is the annual "Voice of Democracy" banquet: all of the District winners are honored and the Department winner is announced. This year, congratulations go to Michael Hu, District 12, sponsored by Mission Santa Clara Post #3982. We also honor the Department winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay competition: Siddharth Chaudhry, District 10, sponsored by San Ramon Post #75. Both now advance to the National level of the respective competitions.

Winter also marks the February 15 deadline for submitting the Continuing Education scholarship application, a \$1,250 award given annually to an Auxiliary member, or an immediate family member, in each of the four conferences. That deadline has just passed. The application looks for the answers to eight questions and an accompanying 300-word essay on what your goals are and how the scholarship will help you attain those goals. This scholarship usually receives a small number of applications.

However, there's more coming! Both the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest have submission deadlines of March 31, 2025, at a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. Specific entry details are noted on the contests' respective Information Sheets and attached Entry Forms, which are attached to this Promotion.

It is noteworthy that approximately 4,000 students participate each year and in addition to \$37,000 in national scholarships, local and state VFW Auxiliaries throughout the nation award more than \$150,000 in Patriotic Art scholarships every year. We don't say "Thank You" often enough to our volunteers -- thanks go out to all of you for donating to these funds at all levels.

There is a way for your Auxiliary to be recognized with a National Program Award for the most outstanding activity and/or event educating your community about the scholarship opportunities in the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary. (Of course) there is a form for that, which is also attached to this Promotion. The completed entry form is due to the Department Chairman by March 31, 2025.

Keep spreading the word about these scholarships and then REPORT all you did!

Department of California Scholarships Program