

# SCHOLARSHIPS AMBASSADOR



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I am so excited to serve as a National Ambassador and promote our VFW Auxiliary Scholarships. What fun we will have this year bringing increased awareness to all the scholarship opportunities. Scholarships allow us to recognize patriotic students and become the bridge to promoting citizenship and patriotism throughout our communities.

This year I would like to focus on celebrating talented students who participated in our contests at every level. Let's "roll out the red carpet" for them. They have worked hard and deserve for us to shine a spotlight on their writings and artwork. Your Auxiliary can even host a "red carpet night" to celebrate our Scholarships honorees. See page 48 for more information.

Also, do not forget during the year to share pictures on your local Department's social media pages and with National ([info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)).

### Continuing Education Scholarship

All the support we poured into the Continuing Education Scholarship last year has improved the awareness of this wonderful opportunity. Let's keep the momentum going! Our members, with at least one year of membership, their spouses and children are eligible to apply. This benefit of membership can also be a useful recruitment tool.

### Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

The VFW Auxiliary has been recognizing the amazing talent of young artists for more than 45 years through this contest. A free full-color brochure to promote this contest is available to order in MALTA. Share your creative ways of promoting this scholarship opportunity. Once you have been granted permission from schools and businesses, post information where young artists are sure to have access.

The Scholarships link on the VFW Auxiliary National website has everything you need to learn about our scholarships: how to apply, where to submit the entry, etc. This will ensure you have all the vital information needed to meet requirements and deadlines.

### 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

The 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest is also available to students in grades 9-12. **Important:** Entries must include a photo of their 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art to be submitted with the mailed entry to HQ. Sadly, sometimes when the art is mailed to HQ, it can be damaged during the shipping process, even when carefully packaged, and the photo is needed to be able to evaluate what the art was truly designed to be.

### VFW Patriot's Pen

The VFW Patriot's Pen is an essay contest for students in grades 6-8. We have been a valued supporter and promoter of this contest to make it as successful as possible, and we continue to do so.

### VFW Voice of Democracy

The VFW Voice of Democracy is a vocal recording of a written essay by students in grades 9-12. Let us continue to grow this program with dedicated and creative efforts.

# SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

*Student Participation • Recipient Recognition • Promoting Scholarship Opportunities • Increasing the Funds*

Each of our scholarships encourage patriotism, assist students in attaining an education and help students reach their full potential. This increases VFW and Auxiliary recognition while supporting our communities, students and members.

## **Continuing Education Scholarship**

Open to any VFW Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. Entrant must be at least 21 years old, complete the application and submit an essay of 300 words or less. The application must be received at National Headquarters by February 15:

Program Awards Administrator  
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters  
406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Or email it to [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

\$1,250 will be awarded to one applicant in each of the four conferences. Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical or trade school of the awardee's choice. Applications are in MALTA Member Resources under the Scholarships tab.

To donate to the Continuing Education Fund  
Log in to MALTA. Click on "Make a Gift."  
Select Continuing Education or mail checks to:

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters  
Attn: Continuing Education Fund  
406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor  
Kansas City, MO 64111

## **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest**

These two Patriotic Art Contests are open to any student in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who is enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions: or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intend to become a U.S. citizen. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or older, GED and adult education students, or national winners of the same previous Patriotic Art Contests are ineligible. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique.

Scholarships are paid directly to the American college, vocational, technical or trade school of the winners' choice.

## **VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships: Young American Creative Patriotic Art**

**First Place** – VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$15,000

**Second Place** – VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$7,500

**Third Place** – VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$4,500

**Fourth Place** – Janice Criswell Department of Kansas  
Scholarship  
\$4,000

**Fifth Place** – Sandy Germany Department of Alabama Scholarship  
\$1,500

**Sixth Place** – Evelyn McCune Department of Kansas Scholarship  
\$1,500

**Seventh Place** – M. Blanche Child Department of Kansas VFW Auxiliary 1650 Scholarship  
\$1,000

**Eighth Place** – Jean Hamil Department of Florida Scholarship  
\$1000

**Ninth Place** – William F. Ehrlich VFW Auxiliary No. 1391 Department of Wisconsin Scholarship  
\$1000

**Tenth Place** – Department of Minnesota VFW Auxiliary 100th Anniversary Scholarship  
\$1000

**Eleventh Place** – Past National President Brenda Bryant Scholarship  
\$750

**Twelfth Place** – Department of Florida VFW Auxiliary Scholarship  
\$500

**Thirteenth Place** – Betty Morris Department of Maryland Scholarship  
\$500

**Fourteen Place** – Juanita Crowe-Durbino Department of Tennessee Scholarship  
\$500

**Fifteenth Place** – Lorraine Frier Department of North Dakota Scholarship  
\$500

**Sixteenth Place** – Department of Wisconsin VFW Auxiliary Scholarship  
\$500

**Seventeenth Place** – Rosemary Mazer Department of New Jersey Scholarship  
\$500

**Eighteenth Place** – PDP Carol Betro and PNP Sandi Kriebel Scholarship  
\$500

**Nineteenth Place** – Department of North Carolina VFW Auxiliary Scholarship  
\$500

**Twentieth Place** – VFW Auxiliary National  
\$500

**VFW Auxiliary National Scholarships:  
3-Dimensional Patriotic Art**

**First Place** – Jane Reape Department of New York Scholarship  
\$2,500

**Second Place** – VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$1,500

**Third Place** - VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$1,000

**Fourth Place** - Patricia Mortensen National Scholarship  
\$1,000

**Fifth Place** - VFW Auxiliary National Scholarship  
\$500

**Deadlines for Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art entries received by:**

Participating VFW Auxiliary – March 31  
(District Judging is OPTIONAL)

VFW Auxiliary Department – April 15

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters – May 5

## Recognition Is Key

It is important that scholarship winners receive recognition at every level.

Ways to recognize winners:

- Host an awards ceremony.
- Present a certificate and/or gift.
- Present awards at a school assembly.
- Don't forget to recognize the parents and teachers!

## VFW Auxiliary Scholarship and Contest Resources

Official forms and contest rules can be found in MALTA Member Resources and on our VFW Auxiliary National website: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/>

To support the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship and the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Scholarship escrow fund:

Log in to MALTA. Click on "Make a Gift."  
Select Patriotic Art or mail checks to:

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters  
Attn: Patriotic Art Scholarship Fund  
406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor  
Kansas City, MO 64111

## VFW National Scholarships and Contests

The VFW Auxiliary is proud to be a longtime supporter of the VFW and their scholarships, contest, programs and grants.

- **VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship**  
Established in 1947, this VFW audio-essay competition provides students in grades 9-12 with the unique opportunity to express themselves regarding a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay.

- **VFW Patriot's Pen Scholarship**  
This VFW essay contest encourages young minds grades 6-8 to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society, by drafting a 300- to 400-word essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme.
- **VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"**  
Introduced in 2013, this VFW program awards scholarships to qualifying service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt.

## VFW Resources

Please see the VFW website for contest themes, official forms, rules and eligibility:  
<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education>



*\* While this VFW scholarship is listed in the Scholarships Program section, the Auxiliary has not adopted it; therefore, donations to the VFW's "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship" are reportable under the Veterans & Family Support Program.*

# SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM AWARDS

## **Awards for Auxiliaries:**

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding "Red Carpet" event/celebration honoring VFW and VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants.

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, 2027 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, 2027 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 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

## **Awards for Departments and Department Chairmen:**

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary Department Scholarships Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of a "Red Carpet" event/celebration honoring VFW and VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants.

Winners will be announced and citations will be presented at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention. Money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary Department account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention for disbursement to the winning VFW Auxiliary Department Chairman.

2. The Outstanding Performance Award and Second-Place Outstanding Performance Award will be awarded in each of the 10 Program Divisions based on the criteria listed on page 5 and for the promotion of the Ambassador's Program goals.

Winners will be announced and awards will be presented at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention. Money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary Department account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.