

## Scholarship Program

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As a teacher, I am proud to be the voice that spreads the amazing scholarship opportunities offered by the VFW Auxiliary, supporting all types of learners from hands-on and creative to academic and auditory. These programs honor our veterans by investing in their families and children. This year the Scholarship program is focusing on celebrating our talented student participants at every level of our organization.

### **This year’s Program Goals for Scholarship include**

- More applications turned in for Scholarships
- Sharing your scholarship winners and promoting on social media
- Promotion of scholarships in new areas
- 3D- Art Photos and Packaging
- Supporting the Voice of Democracy & Patriots Pen VFW Program

### **Continuing Education**

This scholarship is available to Auxiliary members (for at least a year), their spouses and children. This is the only scholarship limited by membership. The applicant must be 21 years of age or older to qualify.

The Continuing Education Scholarship is \$1,250 and is awarded to one winner in each of the four Conferences. This scholarship will be paid directly to the American college or vocational/technical school of the awardee’s choice.

For links to application & information check the Scholarship page of the Department Website [www.vfwauxca.org](http://www.vfwauxca.org)

### **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest (YACPAC)**

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest now offers 19 National scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$15,000. This two-dimensional creative contest is available to applicants in grades 9-12 and a legal U.S. Resident. Brochures and applications are available in MALTA under Member Resources.

2-Dimensional entry rules:

- Must be on canvas or heavy paper.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media may be used.
- Must be completed during the current school year.
- Submit canvas entries on stretcher frame or canvas board. If matted, must be matted in white. Do Not Use Color mats.
- Do Not frame art. Reinforce the back with heavy paper. Mounted & floating mats may be used.
- Complete & submit contest entry form. Parent or guardian signature required if under the age of 18.
- Entries may not be smaller than 8" x 10" and not larger than 18" x 24" (not including mat).
- Complete typed explanation of art, 250 words or less by the artist.
- If the American flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, number of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Digital art and photography are NOT accepted.

For links to application & information check the Scholarship page of the Department Website [www.vfwauxca.org](http://www.vfwauxca.org)

### **3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest**

This contest is available to all patriotic young artists in grades 9-12 and a legal U.S. Resident, Four National scholarships are available: \$2,500 for 1st place, \$1,500 for 2nd place, \$1,000 for 3rd place and \$500 for 4th place.

3-Dimensional art accepts paper, paper-mâché, fabric, metalwork, pottery, wood, etc. Brochures and applications are available in MALTA under Member Resources.

3-Dimensional entry rules:

**\*\*\*NEW REQUIREMENT\*\*\*** Entries must have a photo taken of them before they are mailed and photo must accompany the art piece to National.

- Must be three dimensional.
- Must be completed during the school year.
- May be paper, papier mâché, pottery, fabric, wood, metal, sculpture, etc.
- Typed explanation of steps taken to create art along with 250-words-or-less statement.
- Completed entry form with parent or guardian signature if artist is under the age of 18.
- If American flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code.
- Entries may not be larger than 18" in any direction.

- May not weigh more than 5 pounds.
- Digital art, photography, 3-D laser printed art, weapons & jewelry NOT accepted.

For links to application & information check the Scholarship page of the Department Website [www.vfwauxca.org](http://www.vfwauxca.org)

### **Patriot's Pen & Voice of Democracy**

The VFW's Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy scholarship contests are VFW scholarships that we as an auxiliary support. The Patriot's Pen is a short, written essay for scholars in grades 6-8. The Voice of Democracy is a written essay and vocal recording of that essay for scholars in grades 9-12. Please reach out to your Post for information on the Scholars App and ways your Auxiliary can support this program.

### **2026-2027 VFW Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen Theme**

Audio-Essay Contest Theme & Patriot's Pen Written Essay Theme

"What a veteran taught me about America."



### **Roll out the red carpet**

\*\*\* New this Year\*\*\*

A New award opportunity is available this year for Auxiliaries who host the most outstanding red carpet celebration event showcasing their scholarship winners. The entry form is required and turned into the Department Scholarship Chairman by the deadline in March.

For links to application & information check the Scholarship page of the Department Website [www.vfwauxca.org](http://www.vfwauxca.org)

### **Scholarship Dates to Remember**

**October 31, 2026-** Voice of Democracy/ Patriot Pen Entries Due to Post

**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2027-** Continuing Education Due to National

**March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027-** Y.A.C.P.A & 3D P.A. Entries due to Auxiliary (District voting optional)

**March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027-** Entry form for Outstanding Red-Carpet Event due to Department Scholarship Chairman

**April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2027-** Y.A.C.P.A & 3D P.A. Entries due to the Department

**April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2027-** Reporting Deadline for Department Awards

**April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027**- Outstanding Red-Carpet Event Dept Winner due to National

**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2027**- Y.A.C.P.A & 3D P.A. Entries due to National

**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2027**- Awards Deadline for National

## **Scholarship Program Awards**

### **Awards for Auxiliaries**

Most outstanding “Red Carpet” event/celebration honoring VFW and the VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants.

- 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 the VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their 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 the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

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

1. Citation and \$25 to one Department Scholarships Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of outstanding “Red Carpet” event/celebration. Winners will be announced and awards will be presented at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
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 in the National Program Book and for the promotion of the National Ambassador’s Program goals. Winners will be announced and awards will be presented at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

### **Department Legacy Awards**

A Legacy Award will be awarded to one Outstanding Auxiliary Chairman for best Performance in the Scholarship Program.

# VFW Auxiliary National Year-End Report Worksheet Scholarships 2026-2027

This form is for statistical purposes only.

The Department Chairman must submit this report form to their Department President by May 1.

This report is to be processed in MALTA by the Department President by May 10.

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of participating VFW Auxiliaries: \_\_\_\_\_

## Continuing Education Scholarship Contest

1. The number of VFW Auxiliaries that promoted the National Continuing Education Scholarship Contest (Examples: distributed applications, publicized or promoted the scholarship). \_\_\_\_\_

## Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

1. The number of VFW Auxiliaries that promoted the National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The number of students that submitted art entries to VFW Auxiliaries for judging. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The number of art entries submitted to the Department for judging. \_\_\_\_\_

## 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

1. The number of VFW Auxiliaries that promoted the National 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The number of students that submitted art entries to VFW Auxiliaries for judging. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The number of art entries submitted to the Department for judging. \_\_\_\_\_

# VFW Auxiliary National Year-End Report Worksheet Scholarships (continued) 2026-2027

## VFW Scholarships

1. The number of VFW Auxiliaries that assisted their VFW Post in promoting or conducting the VFW National Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. \_\_\_\_\_

2. The number of VFW Auxiliaries that assisted their VFW Post in promoting or conducting the VFW National Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest. \_\_\_\_\_

## Recognition

1. The number of Auxiliaries that hosted or co-hosted an awards ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in any/all contests with or without the VFW. \_\_\_\_\_

2. The total dollar amount and/or value of awards presented by Auxiliaries, Districts and Departments in any/all contests. \_\_\_\_\_

## Donations

1. The number of Auxiliaries that made a monetary donation to the National Continuing Education Scholarship fund. \_\_\_\_\_

2. The total amount donated to the Continuing Education Fund, to include Auxiliaries, Districts and Department. \_\_\_\_\_

3. The number of Auxiliaries that made a monetary donation to the National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship fund. \_\_\_\_\_

4. The total amount donated to the Patriotic Art Scholarship Fund, to include Auxiliaries, Districts and Department. \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chairman signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Conference: \_\_\_\_\_