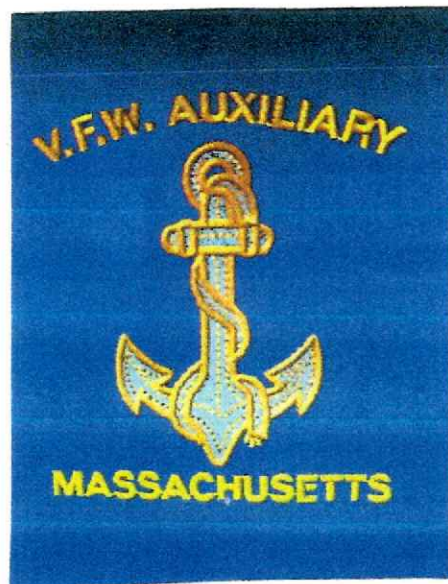


**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS**



2026-2027 PROGRAM KICKOFF



STABILITY, STRENGTH and HOPE

Saturday, August 8, 2026

Patricia M. Wilbur, Department President

**Melissa Pratt, PDP
Chairman**

**Susan Cacciagrani
Co-Chairman**



2026 Special Project - Special Olympics

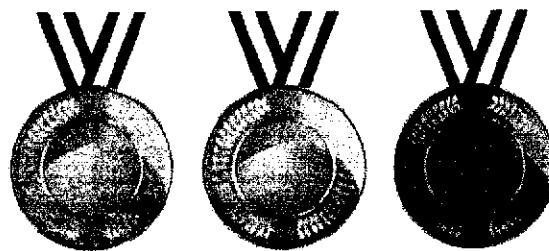
Carrie Joseph, Co-Chairman

Nicky Peets, Co-Chairman

Thank you Madam President, Patricia Wilbur for choosing us to be your Special State Project Co-Chairmen. We are excited to raise money for this wonderful organization!

More than just a sports organization, Special Olympics works to create a more inclusive world where people of all abilities are valued and respected. In addition to athletic competitions, the organization offers health programs, leadership opportunities, and educational initiatives that help athletes reach their full potential both on and off the playing field. By bringing together athletes, coaches, volunteers, families, and communities, Special Olympics demonstrates that everyone deserves the chance to participate, succeed, and belong.

This year we have the goal of \$10,000! We know we can reach it! This money will go a long way to help the organization support their missions. We thought we would have our own Fundraising competition, in the same style as the Special Olympics.



Here is how we will compete.

1. District Presidents will receive a bunch of medals at the Kick Off.
When they go to visit each of their Auxiliaries they will talk about the State Presidents Special Project.
2. Each Auxiliary will be asked if they would like to donate money to the State President's Special Project. If an Auxiliary donates:
\$100 - they will receive a bronze medal
\$125 - they will receive a silver medal
\$150 or more - they will receive a gold medal
Checks should note "Special Project" in the memo line.

As we receive the donations we will illuminate our Special Project torch. We will have the torch at every State meeting so we all can see the progress we are making to our goal.



State Special Project Merch



We will be selling polos and jackets this year to help raise money for the Special State Project. They will be Navy Blue and have the President's Special Project logo embroidered on them. Each shirt will be \$35 and jackets will be \$45.

United by teamwork and driven by determination, Special Olympics and the VFW Auxiliary reminds us that every challenge is an opportunity to shine—and every victory is stronger together.

If you have any questions, please contact us at,

Carrie Joseph - 413-246-3606 or clgjoseph01@gmail.com

Nicky Peets - 508-207-7779 or nickylheureux@yahoo.com



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

96 Galen Street
Waltham, MA 02451
k.durkee.erwin@gmail.com
781-789-8018

Navigating the Seas Together: Veterans and Family Support

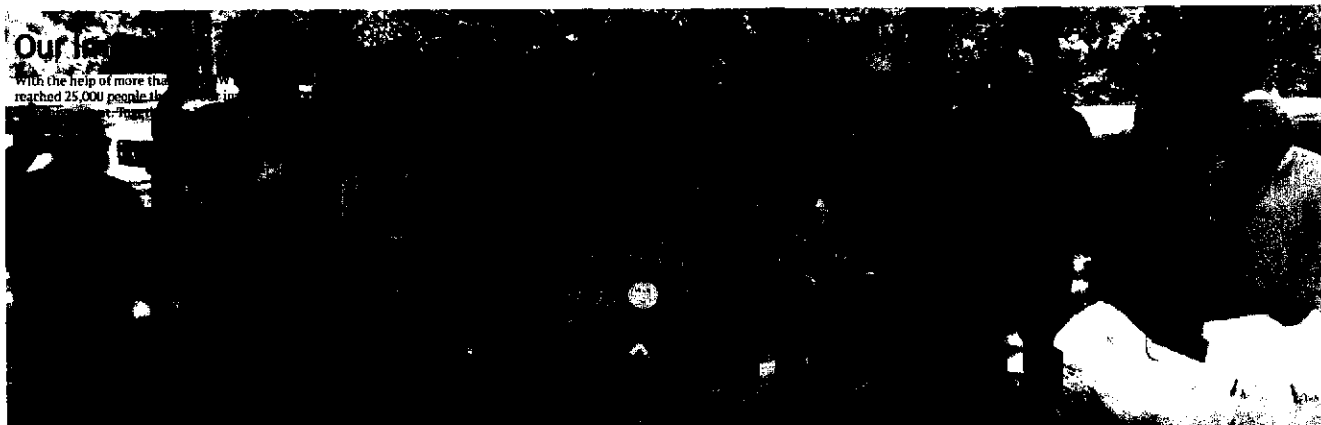
Ladies and Gentlemen! "Come aboard, we've been expecting you." (You just sang that didn't you?) Veterans and Family Support - it's what we do every day. Create a safe space for Veterans and Families to relax and find camaraderie? VFS. Make a donation to Unmet Needs or Disaster Relief? VFS Have EZ10 VA Enrollment Forms with Membership Forms at your Farmers Market table? VFS.

This year our VFS Ambassador is highlighting mental health awareness, women Veterans health, monetary donations and awareness of the VMS programs, homeless Veterans, and as always, the VFW VSO programs. I have made a packet explaining each program for each Auxiliary. Please make sure your VFS program chair gets them.

I challenge you to remember our National VMS monetary donations, collect items for one of the 2 annual VA baby showers (1 fall and 1 spring), and have a mental health awareness event at each Auxiliary. You can do these events with your Post or jointly with your district!

Final ask - when you do your 1st Veterans activity of the year as an Auxiliary- email me immediately with your activity recap at k.durkee.erwin@gmail.com including your aux # and activity. Once all 50 emails are received I will put all Auxiliaries into a raffle for a \$50 gift certificate. (Remember the reporting year started in April!)

Set your course for adventure 2026-2027!



Mental Wellness

A staggering 20 veterans die by suicide every day, and the VFW is committed to helping change the narrative and stigma surrounding mental health in America.

In order to raise awareness, foster community engagement, improve research and provide intervention for those affected by invisible injuries and emotional stress, the VFW has teamed up with the nationwide organizations Give an Hour (<https://www.giveanhour.org/>) and the Campaign to Change Direction (<http://www.changedirection.org/>), One Mind (<http://www.onemind.org/>), PatientsLikeMe (<http://www.patientslikeme.com/join/vfw>) and the Elizabeth Dole Foundation (<https://hiddenheroes.org/>) to combat this critical issue.

How would you like to get involved?

- Change the Stigma
- Improve Research
- Support My Community
- Explore Treatment Options
- Get Help Now

 **Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1
(<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>)

The VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP)

The VFW MAP is the outstretched hand between the VFW and the local military, offering support to you, your unit and its loved ones during all Phases of deployment.

Through local VFW channels, MAP sponsors morale-boosting events such as homecoming celebrations, send-offs and other special events. MAP provides the support you and your unit deserve.

Is your unit interested in being adopted?

The VFW and its Auxiliary adopt hundreds of military units around the world. We develop supportive, ongoing relationships with your unit and your family to help deliver the vast network of resources the VFW has available for the military community. Let us know if your unit is interested in learning more by contacting us today!



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Communication Assistance
veterans&militarysupport@vfw.org

Financial Assistance
financialassistance@vfw.org

Student Veterans' Scholarships
helpahero@vfw.org

Military Morale-Boosting Events
m.a.p@vfw.org

**Financial Assistance
For Services Members**



**Help A Hero
Scholarship**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW National Headquarters

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
Phone: 816.756.3390



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

**VETERANS & MILITARY
SUPPORT PROGRAMS**



What is the VFW?

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is the nation's largest organization of combat veterans. Since 1899, we have been dedicated to helping our veterans, service members and their families through programs designed by veterans, for veterans. **No One Does More For Veterans.**

How can the VFW help you?

All too often, deployments mean incredible financial and emotional hardships for you and your family. The VFW's Veterans & Military Support Programs are here to offer the support and assistance military families need to endure these hardships.

What do the VFW's Veterans & Military Support Programs Offer?

Assistance aimed to support you and your family during all phases of your career.

The programs are:

- Financial Assistance
- VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"
- Military Assistance Program



The VFW Financial Assistance For Service Members

The VFW Financial Assistance for Service Members program provides a one-time grant in financial assistance to service members and military families who face unexpected financial difficulties as a result of military service. The program assists with the costs associated with daily necessities and does not require repayment. For eligibility and the online application, go to vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants.

What can grants be used toward?

- Mortgage/rent
- Home/auto repairs
- Utilities/insurance
- Food/necessities

Ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Credit cards of any type
- Loans – such as personal/student/payday loans
- Bank fees
- Legal/educational expenses
- Cable/internet/secondary phones
- IRS/military debt/debt owed to family member or friend
- Bills due to excessive use or mismanagement



VFW SportClips
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS. HAIRCUTS

HELP A HERO SCHOLARSHIP ★ PROGRAM

The VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. Scholarships of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to eligible applicants.

Applications are accepted January 1 - April 30 for fall semester, and August 1 - November 15 for spring semester.

Eligible applicants must be:

- Retired or honorably discharged, active duty or a member of the National Guard/Reserves.
- Separated with or currently hold a military rank of E-5 or below.
- Demonstrating a need for financial assistance.
- Participating in, accepted to or currently enrolled in a VA approved program or school at an accredited post-secondary institution.

VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW NATIONAL HOME
Mary Dobbins, Chairman
86 Westwood Drive
Whitman, MA 02382
781-974-3037

There is much to learn about the VFW National Home Program. When I first joined the Auxiliary in 2018, I did not know very much about it. I knew that my husband, Dennis, had a membership there. I thought it was still a home for the mothers and children of fallen military servicemen and women. Through the years, I have learned there is much more to it than that. I have been a Life Member of the National Home for about 5 years. I encourage you all, and please share with your members, to become VFW National Home Life Members. This is a great way to support this program.

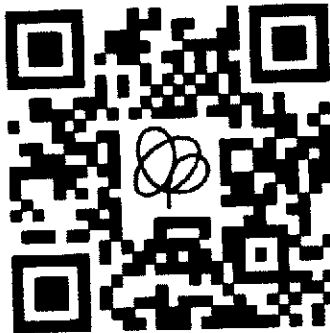
The VFW National Home provides no cost housing, daycare, education and support to Military & Veteran Families who qualify and relocate to the campus in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. The family can have one or more children. There are 43 single family homes. Our Department supports the Massachusetts House. This does not mean that the family that is placed there would be from Massachusetts. Families are placed in a home more suitable to their family size. Additionally, Military and Veteran families across the country may receive guidance, referrals, and emotional support through the veteran services and outreach efforts.

This year we will focus on educating our members to help fill all the 43 houses at the National Home. The goal is to fill all the houses and find additional funding to build more homes for our heroes. Please inform your Veteran Service Officers of all the services that are available for those in need. Share the website vfwnationalhome.org and the phone number 800-424-8360. I will have the QR code available at our meetings.

Please visit www.vfwnationalhome.org. There is so much more information there, and check out the VFW National Home Facebook page.

Please don't forget to report anything your auxiliary does to support this program. Any questions, you can reach me on my cell 781-974-3037 or email, Bellamom21@aol.com.

Thank you for all that you do!



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
VFW National Home Program



VFW NATIONAL HOME

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBER INFORMATION

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Date of birth:

*Email:

*Mobile Phone:

Membership Type:

☐ Associate (not a member of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary)

☐ Life Member (must be a member in good standing of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary or a unit of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary. Complete affiliation information below. If no Post or Auxiliary number is provided, an Associate Membership will be issued.)

VFW & VFW AUXILIARY INFORMATION

(Required if a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member)

☐ I am a member of VFW Post _____ in the Department of _____ VFW

☐ I am a member of VFW Auxiliary _____ in the Department of _____ VFW Auxiliary

RECRUITER (Not required)

Recruiter name: _____ Recruiter Post or Auxiliary number: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Apply online at:

www.vfwnationalhome.org/membership

One-time membership fee \$100

☐ Check enclosed and made payable to VFW National Home

☐ Charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Name on card:

Card number:

Signature:

Expiration date:

CVC:

A LASTING COMMITMENT TO MILITARY FAMILIES

When you choose to become a Life Member or Associate Life Member of the VFW National Home, you become part of a caring community dedicated to honoring our nation's veterans and today's military. Because of your generosity, veterans and their families have a welcoming place to live—along with the support and stability they need to grow and move forward together.

As a Life Member, you also help guide the future of the National Home by voting for trustees who represent your National Home District and on proposed changes to the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation. Your generosity creates opportunity, fuels growth, and makes a lasting difference in the lives of the veterans and families we serve.



Fields marked with an asterisk are required for electronic voting.

Join Now!

3573 S Waverly Rd Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 tel/ 866 483-9642 www.vfwnationalhome.org info@vfwnationalhome.org

January 2026

Beth Barrett, PDP
Website/ZOOM Administrator
846 Broadway, Trlr 23
Saugus, MA 01906
beth.sobel@comcast.net
781-520-4020

www.vfwauxma.org

HOME ABOUT PROGRAMS RESOURCES NEWS CONTACT US LOGIN

The Department of Massachusetts VFW Auxiliary website is a source of information that links you to both National and Department information and resources and every form you will need to have a successful program year.

Just type the website name, **www.vfwauxma.org**, in your browser search bar and hit enter. Then select what you want to see from the dropdown list in each category.

Website Contents

HOME PAGE

Welcome to the Dept. of Mass VFW Auxiliary
State President's Theme
Announcements of upcoming meetings and important information highlights
News highlights including current Membership standings

ABOUT

ABOUT US – general information about the VFW Auxiliary
MISSION – VFW Auxiliary Mission Statement
OFFICERS – National President's and Dept. Officers' name, photo, and bio and name and photo of District Presidents
PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS – a listing by year of all who have served as Dept. President
JOIN US – eligibility rules and membership application

PROGRAMS

Information on each National Program and the State President's Special Project with links to the National Program book, the program QR codes, contest applications, and information for each program
List of Current Dept. Chairmen for each program
Content of the Dept. Program Kick Off Books (when available)
Points for the Auxiliary of the Year Contest
Auxiliary Listing by Division

RESOURCES

DEPT. OF MASS VFW WEBSITE access
DISTRICT INFO – A map of where each District is located in the state
A listing of Auxiliaries by District, address, President's name and day and time of meeting
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION – how to request the Dept. Newsletter

RESOURCES (cont.) MISC. RESOURCES

Cancer grant application
Guide to using technology
VFW Foundation Grant information
Sample Meeting Agenda
Tips for the Auxiliary Secretary
Auxiliary Treasurer's Guide
990 e-postcard user guide from IRS
IRS Form 8822B (to file when Treasurer changes)
Relief Fund Guide
Audit Form
How to print Dues Renewal Letter in MALTA

REPORTS – Period 1 Reporting forms by Program will be added after Kick Off
Period 2 will be added after Mid-Winter Conference
Year End Report Forms – Chaplain Report of Deceased Members
RU Healthy Checklist
Auxiliary of the Year Extra Credit Form
2026-2027 National Program Award Entry Forms

NEWS

CALENDAR – tentative Dept. dates for meetings and events
NEWS – all Dept. mailings and Newsletters
Current District Membership Standings (including deceased members)
Any information of interest to all members

CONTACT

Have a question? Need information? Cannot find your Roster! Send an email through the website and we will pass it on to the appropriate person to get you what you need

LOGIN

FOR USE BY WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR ONLY
any member can access all of the information included on the website simply by clicking on it - **NO SIGN IN NECESSARY BY MEMBER**

ZOOM

Our primary meetings – Council of Administration meetings and Conferences – are scheduled to be held in person but we maintain a ZOOM account for certain Department meetings and for member access when WiFi is available in the location that we are holding a meeting. Instructions on how to obtain the ZOOM link will be sent in the Department mailing when ZOOM is available for attendance.

If your Auxiliary or District cannot meet in person and the Dept. ZOOM account is not in use, I can host your meeting – email me to inquire on usage.

Please contact me with questions about the website or ZOOM or to share any suggestions for content on the website.

Youth Activities

Chairman: Lynne LeBlanc
1 Jonathan Lane
West Townsend, MA 01474
(978)340-3613
leblanc18156@gmail.com

This year I will be promoting our Youth Activities Program and working with my Ambassador, Debbie Little. Lots of changes and challenges for 2026-2027, which will make it a more exciting year.

The first challenge is to actually read about the program. I know most of you are bored by now this being the last program in the booklet, but it can be so much fun. Be a child again and promote fun and exciting events.

I know it has been challenging to get entries entered into the **Illustrating America** contest. Massachusetts curriculum is so jammed packed the teachers don't have room for adjustments or additions. We have to be creative on reaching out to other groups. Some examples are: Private schools, Religious schools, local libraries, Scouting America, YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, home school associations and after-school programs. Better yet run a program through your Auxiliary after school or on a vacation break. Supply paper and art supplies like crayons and colored pencils for the attendees to create their art work. Make sure their parent/guardian fill out an entry form to go along with their child's art work to be entered.

Please note changes to the Illustrating America Art contest due dates.

- **December 15, 2026**: Illustrating America student entries are due to participating/sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging. Divisions are Grades K-2, Grades 3-5 and Grades 6-8.
- **January 15, 2027**: Illustrating America first-place winner in each grade division from each participating/sponsoring VFW Auxiliary are due to the VFW Auxiliary Department Chairman for judging.
- **January 31, 2027**: Illustrating America first-place winner in each grade division from each Department must be received by National Headquarters for judging.

Our Ambassador has asked each VFW Auxiliary to set up a "**Lending Library**" in your community. This effort will see Auxiliaries create and institute their own lending libraries where children can borrow reading materials. Libraries can be placed anywhere (approval may be needed) especially at your Post or meeting hall or local community center. Outdoor library

boxes are available through Amazon and other online retailers. You may even reach out to your local Girl or Boy Scouts to see if they could craft one for you. If a lending library is already set up see if your Auxiliary can maintain it for the youth in your area.

Stock your library with selections from the **"Patriotism through Literacy"** reading list, available on MALTA. Other appropriate youth books can be included in your lending library also. Ask members to donate books they no longer use or purchase new ones. Your Auxiliary can make a difference in the reading abilities of a child and promote Patriotism at the same time.

The Youth Activities Program also promotes:

- **Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups:** Many youth-focused organizations require various types of community service or activities. College bound seniors earn school credit for some of these same activities.
- **Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citation:** Recognize Youth Groups with a citation available in MALTA Member Resources under Youth Activities.
- **Patriotic Youth Award:** Recognize individual youth for their Patriotism and/or Veteran support. A fillable, printable version is available in MALTA.
- **Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.):** Have and R.A.P. card ready to hand out when you see a child doing an act of Patriotism. Print out found in MALTA under Member Resources, Youth Activities.

A **Youth Activities National Program** award will be awarded to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the national divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library so be creative and fill out the entry form by March 31, 2027. Entry forms are included in this Kick-off booklet or contact me, leblanc18156@gmail.com anytime for more information.

I know I am requiring a lot of effort from your Auxiliary but it is so rewarding. Remember to send in your REPORTS twice. Even if you fulfill all requirements the first half, report the second half informing me so I can give you the point. Thanks so much and I look forward to working and assisting each and every Auxiliary this year 2026-2027.

With Gratitude, Lynne LeBlanc



**BIRTHDAY
AMERICA**

Colorko.com



VFW Auxiliary National Patriotic Art Contest

Illustrating America

2026-2027

Check off list for Auxiliary, District and Department level judging.

Contest Eligibility

- ☐ Student is not a previous winner of VFW Auxiliary Illustrating America Art Contest on the national level for the same grade division of which they are entering. The student may enter the subsequent grade division.
- ☐ Student is in grade K-8 by **December 15** deadline.
- ☐ Student is enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home school 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 is a lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent resident (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- ☐ Student is not a foreign exchange student.

Contest Rules

- ☐ Entry is original and created by the student.
- ☐ Entry is not a copy of and/or is not a tracing of existing works of art.
- ☐ Entry was completed during the current school year.
- ☐ Entry is two-dimensional art that has length, width and is flat.
- ☐ Entry is on canvas or paper.
- ☐ If canvas entry, it is submitted on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- ☐ If paper entry. It is reinforced with heavy paper, cardboard or foamboard.
- ☐ Entry is not framed art with wood, metal, plastic or glass. Mats may be used, including mounted and floating mats.
- ☐ Entry is not smaller than 8"x10"
- ☐ Entry is not larger than 18"x24" **including** mat.
- ☐ Entry is not a coloring sheet.
- ☐ Entry does not include digital art, AI or photography.
- ☐ Due to the age of the student, if the American Flag is displayed in a manner that clearly identifies it as such, it **does not** need to adhere to the Federal Flag Code specifications regarding its colors and number of stars and stripes.
- ☐ Entry form is completed typed or printed legible in English.
- ☐ Entry form includes parent and/or guardian signatures.
- ☐ Students' name, age and grade level is printed on back of art entry.

July 2026



VFW Auxiliary National Patriotic Art Contest

Illustrating America

Official Rules and Eligibility 2026-2027

VFW Auxiliary is pleased to present this national art contest designed to introduce, encourage and recognize young artists with patriotism through artistic expression. Entries will be judged on effort and the process of creation through elements like line, shape and color with focus on patriotic themes and techniques.

VFW Auxiliary National level awards

Grades K-2

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

Grades 3-5

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

Grades 6-8

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

New Deadline Date

Student entry is due to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

December 15, 2026

Contest Eligibility

- Students do not have to be related to a VFW or a VFW Auxiliary member to enter.
- Students in grades K-12 by **December 15** deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home school 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 resident (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Foreign exchange students are not eligible.
- Previous winners of VFW Auxiliary Illustrating America Art Contests on the National level are not eligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous national winner. However, the students may enter the subsequent grade division.

Contest Rules

- Entry must be original and created by the student, copying and tracing existing works is prohibited.
- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Entry must be two-dimensional art that has length, width and is flat.
- Entry must be on canvas or paper.
- Canvas entries must be submitted on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- Paper entries must be reinforced with heavy paper, cardboard or foamboard.
- Do not frame art with wood, metal, plastic or glass.
- Mats may be used, including mounted and floating mats.
- Entries may not be smaller than 8"x10" and not larger than 18"x24" including mat.
- Crayons, paint, glitter, marker, pastel, pencil, watercolor, mixed or other media may be used.
- Coloring sheets, digital art, AI and photography are not accepted.
- If the American Flag is displayed in a manner that clearly identifies it as such, it **does not** need to adhere to the Federal Flag Code specifications regarding its colors and number of stars and stripes.
- Students' name, age and grade level must be printed on back of art entry.
- Completed typed or printed legible entry form including parent and/or guardian signatures.

VFW Auxiliary National reserves the right to modify these rules and eligibility without notice.



VFW Auxiliary National Patriotic Art Contest

New Deadline Dates!

Illustrating America

Entry Form

2026-2027

Please print or type. Incomplete and/or illegible entry forms will disqualify the entrant.

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Title of entry: _____ Date completed: _____

Media used: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

*Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

*I certify that I have read the foregoing Official Rules and Eligibility (page 1) and fully understand and agree to the contents.

*I hereby grant permission for my child's art and name to be published on the VFW Auxiliary National website and social media and to be used for all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary National organization.

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for entries which are lost, late, illegible, damaged, incomplete, misdirected, stolen, or reproduced. All scores are final as received from the judges. All contestants must agree to abide by the contest rules. Falsifying information on the entry form or any violation of these rules shall cause immediate disqualification and forfeiture of scholarship.

Participating Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary Contact Information

Contact Name: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Contact Email: _____ VFW Aux. No.: _____

To avoid entrant disqualification, this section is to be filled out completely by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level. VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters only accepts Department level first-place winning entries from the Department President.

Participating Sponsoring VFW Aux. Name & No: _____ Dept: _____

December 15: Student entries due to participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

Authorized VFW Aux. verification signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

January: (Optional) First place winner from each participating sponsoring VFW Aux. due to VFW Aux. District judging.

Authorized VFW Auxiliary District verification signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

January 15: First place winner from each participating sponsoring VFW Aux. or optional VFW Aux. District judging due to the VFW Aux. Department judging.

VFW Aux. Department President signature: _____ Date: _____

Artwork is the property of the student and must be returned immediately to the address listed above if not advancing to the next level.

January 31: First place winner from each VFW Aux. Department must be received at VFW Aux. National Headquarters for judging.

February/March: All students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. Selected winning entries may be announced on VFW Aux. National social media pages and an image may be shown at the VFW Aux. National Convention.

March/April: Returning process begins. All art entries received at VFW Aux. National will be returned to students to the address provided on the entry form.

VFW Auxiliary National reserves the right to modify these rules and eligibility without notice.

VFW Auxiliary Judge's Score Sheet

may be used for all art contest on all levels of judging

Art Contest:

Entrant Name:

Grade:

Criteria

Patriotic Expression

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Concept

2. Presentation

3. Patriotism Expressed

Patriotic Expression Total

Content

Total of 30 points possible

Points

1. Clarity of idea

2. Elicitation of emotion

3. Does it stand on its own

Content Total

Design

Total of 40 points possible

Points

1. Technique

2. Creativity

3. Contrast

4. Total impact of work

Design Total

Total all points

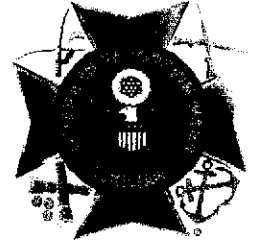
Judge's Comments:

Judge's Signature:

Date:

Photo Release Form

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary National Organization
&/or Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary #_____ (fill in number)*



Release for Youth:

I, _____, hereby authorize the use of my child's photograph for publication by VFW Auxiliary #_____ and/or VFW Auxiliary National Organization, including, but not limited to, social media sites, website, brochures, newsletters, e-newsletters, *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* and videos. Release must be signed by parent and VFW Auxiliary representative.

Please Note: National Auxiliary policy dictates that we do not share last names for students under school-aged or in grades K-8; the full names of students who are under 18 but in high school or college will be posted (if provided) unless otherwise specified.

Name of Child

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Release for Adult:

I, _____, hereby authorize the use of my photograph for publication by VFW Auxiliary #_____ and/or VFW Auxiliary National Organization, including, but not limited to, social media sites, website, brochures, newsletters, e-newsletters, *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* and videos. Release must be signed by subject and VFW Auxiliary representative.

Signature

Date

VFW Auxiliary Representative

Date

YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AWARDS

Awards for Auxiliaries:

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the VFW Auxiliary Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2027 for judging.

The VFW Auxiliary Department Youth Activities Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the VFW Auxiliary National Youth Activities Ambassador by April 30, 2027 for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary 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 VFW Auxiliary Department Youth Activities Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of the VFW Auxiliary Lending Library initiative.

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 distribution to the winning VFW Auxiliary Department Chairmen.

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.



Youth Activities

National Program Awards 2026-2027 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.

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.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2027 for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library. (e.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

The Department Youth Activities Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National Youth Activities Ambassador Debbie Little by April 30, 2027 for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.