

SEPTEMBER 2023

I hope you were able to attend one of the three Training Academies that were offered. They were very informative and fun.

THIS IS SEPTEMBER. You need to get the information and applications out to students for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen **NOW**. The **DEADLINE for both is October 31, 2023**, and it must be at the local VFW Post by then. Here are the requirements once again -

2023-2024 Voice of Democracy Audio – Essay Contest

THEME – "What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"

o Who is Eligible to Apply?

§ Any student in grades 9-12 by the October 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.

2023-2024 Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

THEME – "How Are You Inspired by America?"

o Who is Eligible to Apply?

§ Any student in grades 6-8 by the October 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.

o Deadlines -

- Student Entry Deadline to Local VFW Post – Midnight, October 31
- Local VFW Post Judging Complete – November 15
- Department Judging Complete – January 10
- VFW Department winners to National Headquarters – January 15

You can find a list of rules and applications on the following sites -

VFW website: vfw.org/community/youth-and-education; MALTA Member Resources; VFW Auxiliary National website: vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships

When making your donations to the scholarship program please make them out to the VFW Auxiliary Department and send them to Department Treasurer Sonya Sallee 673 W. Sandpiper Ave. Hermiston, OR 97837. The more donations received equal more scholarships and higher amounts that can be rewarded.

Keep in mind that the other scholarships available are due February 15, 2024, and March 31, 2024.