

Teachers for students in grades Kindergarten through 8

VFW Auxiliary 6504 is sponsoring two different contests for students in grades K - 8.

The first is a singing contest that must be videoed. The student must sing the Star-Spangled Banner in a live unedited version. All rules are listed on the attached application.

The second contest is an art contest. We want students to show their Patriotism through art. Entry is 2 dimensional on canvas or paper. There are 3 divisions for awards - grades K-2, grades 3-5 and grades 6-8. All rules are listed on the attached application.

You can make as many copies of the applications as you need.

The deadline for these contests is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please call or email me by that date if you have any students with entries in either of these contests.

Laurie Sparwasser

Youth Activities Chairman for VFW Auxiliary 6504

618-593-4375

[Laujaue11@gmail.com](mailto:Laujaue11@gmail.com)





# Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!

## VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest

### for eligible students in grades K-12

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



## 2023-2024 Contest Entry Form

Please print or complete fillable form at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org)  
This form must be submitted with the video entry at all levels of judging.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*I certify that all the contest requirements have been met and that I am the sole author of the attached/enclosed video entry. By entering the contest, I grant the VFW Auxiliary royalty-free rights to use, edit, share, publish and broadcast my contest video entry for the Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! national anthem singing contest for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary. I understand the video will not be sold but will remain the property of the VFW Auxiliary.  
 Parent/Guardian Signature: \* \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Representative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative email: \_\_\_\_\_

**This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.**  
 National Headquarters only accepts Department level first-place winners.  
 Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate grade division.

This first place entry is for grad division: Grade K-8 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_

**March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**April 15:** One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Final Level - Department first-place entry must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or it will be disqualified.  
 ATTN: Program Awards Administrator

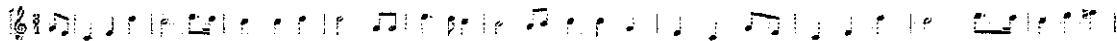


# Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!

VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest  
for eligible students in grades K-12

## 2023-2024

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



Entry will be judged on vocal ability, mastery of lyrics, originality or interpretation and entertainment value.

### Contest Eligibility

- Open to students in grades **K-12** by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial 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 intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students and students aged 20 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous *Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!* students may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous National winner.

### Contest Rules

- One entry per contestant.
- Video of contestant's solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner must be recorded between **July 1, 2023 and March 31 2024**.
- Video must be a recorded live unedited version.
- Student shall state name, age and grade level prior to vocal performance.
- Student may sing a cappella, with backing tracks or instruments.
- Student may sing in the arrangement and genre of their choice.
- Student may **NOT** change the words.
- Student may **NOT** lip sync.
- Complete and sign contest entry form. Parent/Guardian signature required on entry form.
- Video must be saved on a media platform of the VFW Auxiliary choice and submitted with a completed entry form for judging.

## VFW Auxiliary National Awards

### Grades K-8

First place: \$500 gift card  
Second place: \$300 gift card  
Third place: \$200 gift card

### Grades 9-12

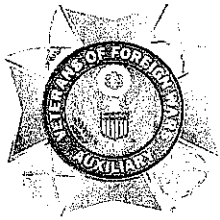
First place: \$500 gift card  
Second place: \$300 gift card  
Third place: \$200 gift card

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected or poor-quality video entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

To acquire contact information and application assistance in your state please email [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

### VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner from each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners from each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of winners via the email address provided on the entry form. First through third place winners named in each of the two grade divisions on VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters social media pages and shown at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.



# VFW Auxiliary National

## Illustrating America Art Contest

### An Art contest for eligible students in grades K-8

### 2023-2024

The VFW National Auxiliary is pleased to present this National art contest to introduce, encourage and recognize young artists with patriotism through art. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique.

#### Contest Eligibility

- Students in grades K-8 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial 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 intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students and students aged 15 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous Illustrating America contests may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous national winner.

#### Contest Rules

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, glitter, marker or other media may be used.
- Entry must be two dimensional.
- Entry must be on canvas or paper.
- Do not frame art.
- Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board.
- Other entries if matted must be matted in white. Do not use color mats.
- Reinforce the back with heavy paper.
- Mounted and floating mats may also be used.
- Entries may not be smaller than 8" x 10" and not larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.
- Complete contest entry form and submit with art entry.
- Parent or guardian signature required on contest entry form.
- If the American Flag is used, it **DOES NOT** need to conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors or numbers of stars and stripes.
- Coloring sheets, digital art and photography and are **NOT** accepted.

#### Awards for Grades K-2

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

#### Awards for Grades 3-5

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

#### Awards for Grades 6-8

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

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

**To acquire contact information and application assistance in your state please email [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)**

#### VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners in each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
- **September:** All art entries will be returned to address on entry form.



# VFW Auxiliary National

## Illustrating America Art Contest

An art contest for eligible students in grades K-8  
2023-2024

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*I hereby grant permission of the artwork by the student listed above to be published in VFW Auxiliary Magazine, on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if named a winner of one of the top national awards. I hereby verifying that the entry was done by the student listed above.*

Parent/Guardian signature: \* \_\_\_\_\_

*VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected entries. All scores are final as received from the judges. Falsifying information on the entry form is reason for immediate disqualification. All contestants agree to abide by the contest rules. Any violation of these rules shall be cause for immediate disqualification and forfeiture of award.*

### Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Representative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative email: \_\_\_\_\_

### This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters only accepts Department level first place winners.  
Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate grade division.

This first-place entry is for: Grade K-2 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 3-5 \_\_\_\_\_ OR Grade 6-8 \_\_\_\_\_

**March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**April 15:** One winner from each grade division in each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**May 5: Final Level** - Department winning entries in each grade division must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or they will be disqualified.

**July/August:** Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**September:** All art will be returned to address on entry form.