

# **VFW AUXILIARY YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM**

**2023-2024**

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**JOYCE CALDWELL**

**National Youth  
Activities Ambassador**

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**PATTY JANSKY**

**Department of Wisconsin  
Youth Activities Chairman**



**How to define  
patriotism for youth:**

**“...love for or  
devotion to one’s  
country”.**



# **YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM**

- **Creating, Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups**
- **Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations**
- **Individual Patriotic Youth Awards**
- **R.A.P. Cards**
- **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!**
- **Illustrating America**
- **Patriotism Through Literacy**
- **Involving Youth in ALL Auxiliary Programs**



# CREATING, SPONSORING AND WORKING WITH YOUTH GROUPS

- Youth Sports Teams
- Church Youth Groups
- After-School Programs
- Youth-Focused Organizations  
(4-H, Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc.)
- School Clubs
- Home-School Associations
- Youth Community Centers
- Service Learning and Civic Engagement  
Departments in High Schools and Colleges



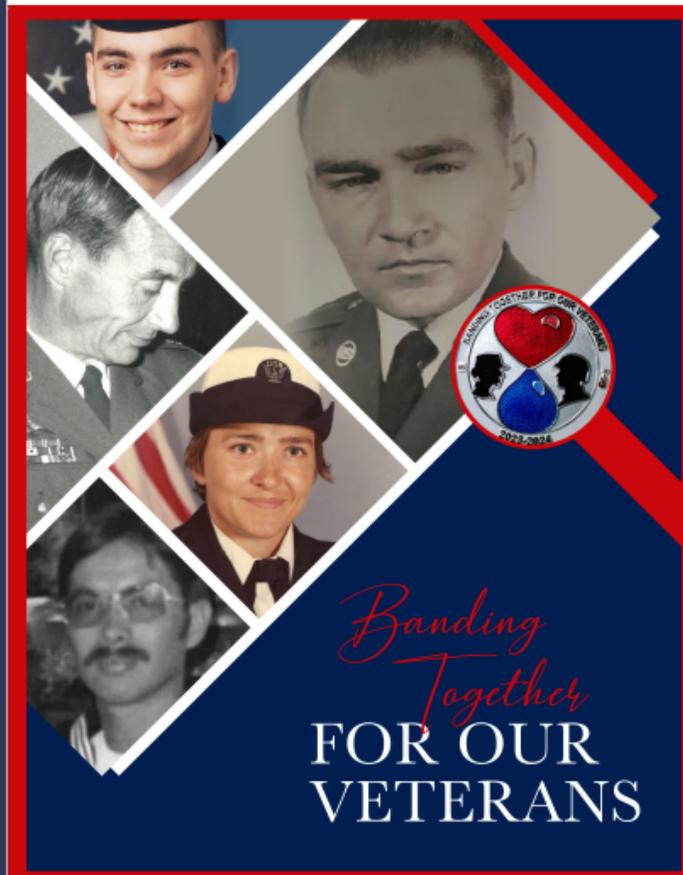


## **RECOGNIZE AND THANK YOUTH WITH...**

- ***Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations***
- ***Individual Patriotic Youth Awards***
- ***Random Act of Patriotism (R.A.P.) Cards***



**YOUTH  
GROUPS  
SUPPORTING  
OUR  
VETERANS  
CITATIONS**



UNWAVERING SUPPORT

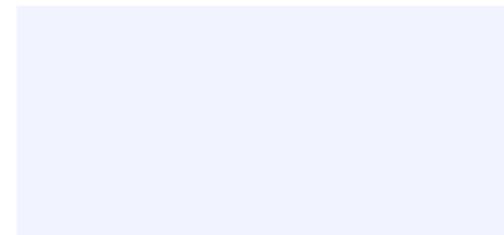


FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Auxiliary**

**Youth Group  
Supporting Our Veterans**

presented to



**In recognition and appreciation  
of your support for our veterans  
and their families.**

**2023-2024**

*Carla J. Martinez*  
National President

*[Signature]*  
National Secretary



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY

*Patriotic Youth Award*

PRESENTED TO

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY

**Patriotic Youth Award**

PRESENTED TO

*for your exemplary display of patriotism.  
Your actions and deeds are appreciated and commended  
by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary.*

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



DATE

# PATRIOTIC YOUTH AWARDS

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY

**Patriotic Youth Award**

PRESENTED TO

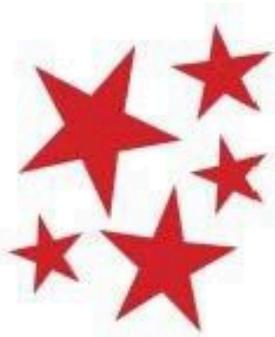
*for your exemplary display of patriotism.  
Your actions and deeds are appreciated and commended  
by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary.*

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



DATE

# R.A.P. CARDS (Random Act of Patriotism)



## NICE R.A.P.!

Random Act of Patriotism



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES  
[www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)

# GET EXCITED FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE!



**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

*(Musical notation for 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**

<b>Grades K-8</b>	<b>Grades 9-12</b>
First place: \$500 gift card	First place: \$500 gift card
Second place: \$300 gift card	Second place: \$300 gift card
Third place: \$200 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.

Page 1 of 2



**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

*(Musical notation for 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

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# GET EXCITED FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE!



## NATIONAL AWARDS

### Grades K-8

**1st Place: \$500**

**2nd Place: \$300**

**3rd Place: \$200**

### Grades 9-12

**1st Place: \$500**

**2nd Place: \$300**

**3rd Place: \$200**

## WI DEPT. AWARDS

### Grades K-8

**1st Place: \$100**

**2nd Place: \$50**

**3rd Place: \$25**

### Grades 9-12

**1st Place: \$100**

**2nd Place: \$50**

**3rd Place: \$25**

# ILLUSTRATING AMERICA



## 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 are NOT accepted.

<p><b>Awards for Grades K-2</b></p> <p>First place: \$100 gift card Second place: \$50 gift card Third place: \$25 gift card</p>	<p><b>Awards for Grades 3-5</b></p> <p>First place: \$100 gift card Second place: \$50 gift card Third place: \$25 gift card</p>	<p><b>Awards for Grades 6-8</b></p> <p>First place: \$100 gift card Second place: \$50 gift card Third place: \$25 gift card</p>
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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.

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## 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 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.

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## NATIONAL AWARDS

### Grades K-2

**1st Place: \$100**

**2nd Place: \$50**

**3rd Place: \$25**

### Grades 3-5

**1st Place: \$100**

**2nd Place: \$50**

**3rd Place: \$25**

### Grades 6-8

**1st Place: \$100**

**2nd Place: \$50**

**3rd Place: \$25**

## **ILLUSTRATING AMERICA**



## WI DEPT. AWARDS

### Grades K-2

**1st Place: \$80**

**2nd Place: \$40**

**3rd Place: \$20**

### Grades 3-5

**1st Place: \$80**

**2nd Place: \$40**

**3rd Place: \$20**

### Grades 6-8

**1st Place: \$80**

**2nd Place: \$40**

**3rd Place: \$20**

# **Illustrating America Patriotic Art Contest**

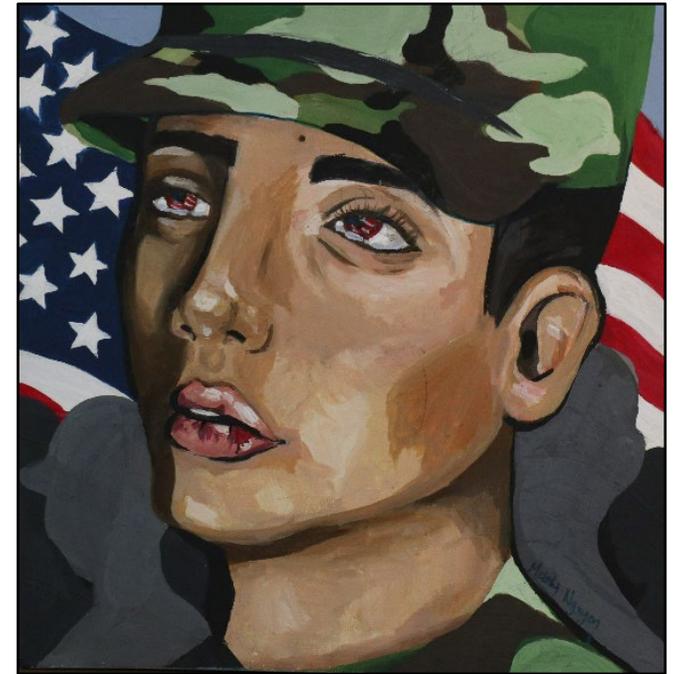
## **1st Places National Winners 2021-2022**



**Grades K-2**



**Grades 3-5**



**Grades 6-8**



**PROMOTE  
PATRIOTISM  
THROUGH  
LITERACY**

- **Begin early – read to youth as young as age 2.**
- **Read to and with Pre-K, Kindergarteners, 1st and 2nd graders and show illustrations about our country.**
- **Teach youth the Pledge of Allegiance and how to sing our National Anthem.**
- **Introduce historical figures and events through books.**

# How to promote **PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY**

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## **Volunteer**

**Volunteer to read a patriotic book at your school or local library.**

## **Donate**

**Donate historical books to community and school libraries or shelters.**

## **Host**

**Host a read-a-thon at a school or run a writer's workshop for young authors.**

## **Award**

**Award prizes for most books read such as stickers, pins or a book to take home.**

# **BENEFITS OF PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY**

- **Books teach youth about various events and people in American history and helps them understand our history better.**
- **Fosters a love of books that leads to a lifetime of learning through reading.**
- **Gives us a chance to spend time with kids in our community in new, creative ways.**
- **Improves grammar, writing skills, focus, concentration, imagination, empathy, etc.**



# PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY

## Suggested Book List

### Patriotism Through Literacy

#### Book Suggestions

Note: grade/age levels are suggested based on publisher's guidelines, school curriculums and reading/comprehension levels, not rules. Interest levels & ability vary by student. Updated: 2022

#### Pre-K-Kindergarten

*John, Paul, George, and Ben* by Lane Smith  
*I Am* series (*I Am Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart*, etc.) by Brad Metzger  
*The White House: A Pop-Up Book of Our Nation's Home* by Robert Sabuda  
*Red, White, and BOOM!* by Lee Wardlaw  
*America the Beautiful* by Katharine Lee Bates  
*God Bless America* by Irving Berlin, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger  
*The Scrambled States of America* by Laurie Keller  
*This Land is Your Land* by Woodie Guthrie & Kathy Jakobsen  
*Wow, America!* by Robert Neubecker  
*My Little Golden Book about Kamala Harris* by Rajani LaRocca  
*My Little Golden Book about The White House* by Jen Arena  
*Sesame Street: Elmo Doodle Dandy* (A Little Golden Book) by Naomi Kleinberg  
*Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops* by Jill Biden  
*My Red Balloon & Dandelions* by Eve Bunting  
*Blue Sky, White Stars* by Sarvinder Naberhaus & Kadir Nelson  
*A is for America: A Patriotic Alphabet Book* by Tanya Lee Stone

#### Grades 1-2

##### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad* by Ellen Levine  
*The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles  
*Stars and Stripes: The Story of the American Flag* by Sarah L. Thomson  
*What the Big Deal About First Ladies?* by Ruby Shamir  
*Harriet's Ruffled Feathers* by Joy McCullough  
*Turning Pages: My Life Story* by Sonia Sotomayor  
*Rescue & Jessica* by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes  
*I Could Do That: How Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote* by Linda White  
*Show Way* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Tuesday Tucks Me In* by Luis Carlos Montalvan  
*They Called Her Molly Pitcher* by Anne Rockwell  
*Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki  
*Martin's Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport  
*Ben Franklin: Wit & Wisdom from A-Z* by Alan Schroeder

##### Educational/Americana & Historical Fiction:

*Happy Birthday, America* by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Apple Pie 4<sup>th</sup> of July* by Janet S. Wong  
*If I Were President* by Catherine Stier  
*Tricking the Tallyman* by Jacqueline Davis  
*Ellie May on President's Day* by Hillary Homzie  
*This is a Rope: A Story from the Great Migration* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*The Flag We Love* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

#### Grades 3-4

##### Historical Fiction:

*Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*I Survived* series (*Gettysburg, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, 9/11*, etc.) by Lauren Tarshis  
*American Girl* original series & *American Girl History's Mysteries* by various authors  
*If You Were a Kid During the American Revolution* by Will Mara  
*The Captive* by Joyce Hansen  
*Magic Treehouse Mysteries* series by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh* by Uma Krishnaswami  
*Capital Mysteries* series by Ron Roy

##### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Magic Treehouse Fact Trackers* series by Mary Pope Osborne  
*A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women* by Lynne Cheney  
*Shh! We're Writing the Constitution* by Jean Fritz  
*Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the Fastest Woman...* by Kathleen Kroll  
*She Persisted* series (*Maya Lin, Maria Tallchief, Patsy Mink*, etc.) by various authors  
*A Splash of Red: The Life & Art of Horace Pippin* by Jen Bryant  
*Who Was/What Was* series, (*George Washington, the White House, Sacagawea*, etc.)  
*Little Legends* series by Vashti Harrison  
*The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and her Tribute to Veterans* by Barbara E. Walsh

##### Educational Americana:

*America's White Table* by Margot Theis Raven  
*Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America* by Lynne Cheney  
*We the Kids* by David Catrow  
*I Have a Dream* by Martin Luther King, Jr., illustrated by Kadir Nelson  
*We Are America: A Tribute from the Heart* by Walter Dean Myers

#### Grades 5-6

##### Historical Fiction:

*Towers Falling* and *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes  
*Keeping Score* by Linda Sue Park  
*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon M. Draper  
*Show Me a Sign* by Ann-Clare LeZotte  
*Red, White & Whole* by Rajani LaRocca  
*My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Zoboi  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor  
*Worth* by Alexandria LaFaye  
*The Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord  
*One Crazy Summer* trilogy by Rita Williams Garcia  
*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
*Nine, Ten, a September 11<sup>th</sup> Story* by Nora Raleigh Baskin  
*Planet Earth is Blue* by Nicole Panteleakos  
*The True History of Lyndie B. Hawkins* by Gail Shephard  
*Bud, Not Buddy* and *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis

##### Creative Non-Fiction:

*Stamped (for Kids)* by Sonja Cherry Paul, Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi  
*Rocket to the Moon* by Don Brown  
*History Smashers* series by Kate Messner  
*It's Up to You, Abe Lincoln* by Leila and Tom Hirschfeld

#### Grades 7-8

##### Historical Fiction:

*Dear America* series by various authors  
*Home is With Our Family* by Joyce Hansen  
*Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes  
*Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata  
*Fever 1793* and *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar  
*Five Children on the Western Front* by Kate Saunders  
*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse  
*We Dream of Space* by Erin Entrada Kelly  
*Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson  
*Betty Before X* by Ilyasah Shabazz  
*The Notorious Benedict Arnold...* by Steve Sheinkin  
*All the Stars Denied* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

##### Non-Fiction & Memoir:

*Amelia Lost: The Life & Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming  
*Grasping Mysteries: Girls Who Loved Math* by Jeannine Atkins  
*Lifting As We Climb* by Evette Dionne  
*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings* by Margarita Engel  
*Hidden Figures: The American Dream & the Untold Story...* by Margot Lee Shetterly  
*What Was the Continental Congress?* and *Clara Barton* by Candice Ransom

#### Grades 9-12

##### Historical Fiction:

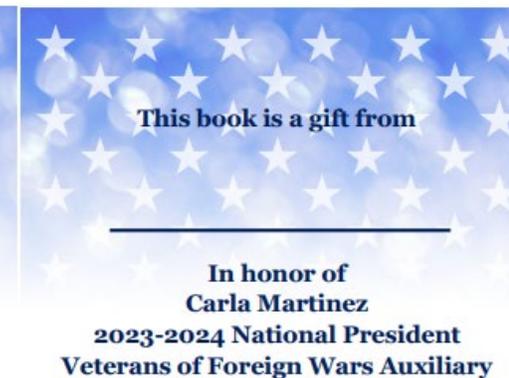
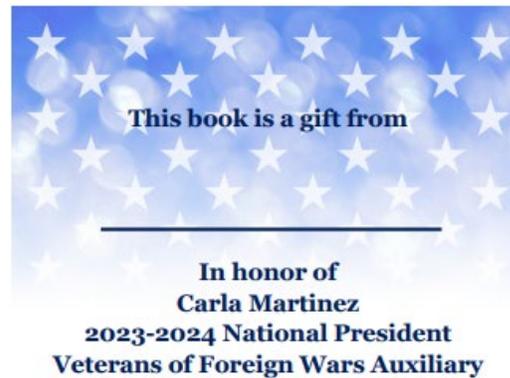
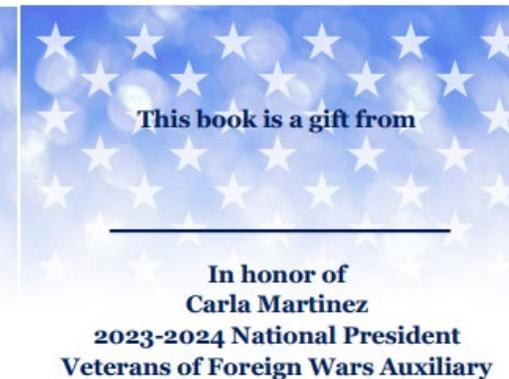
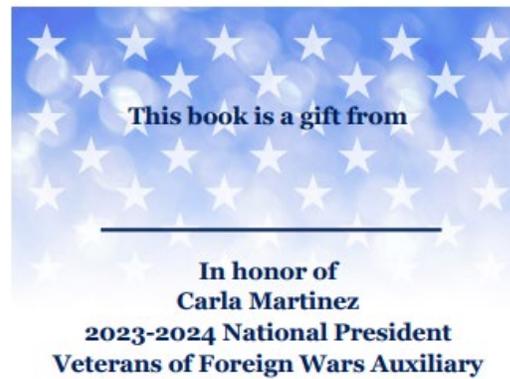
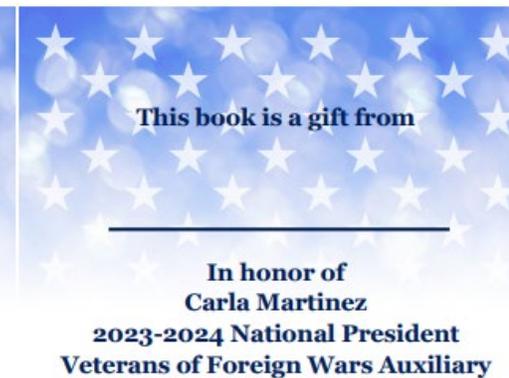
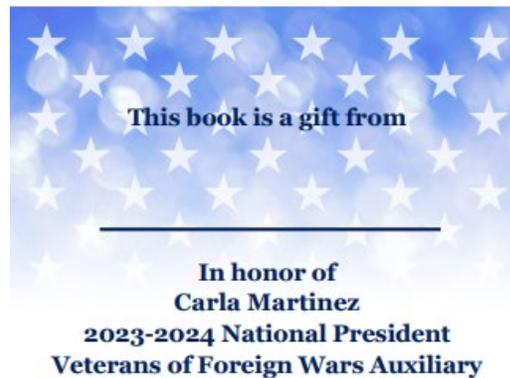
*Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution* by Avi  
*Butterfly Yellow* by Thanhha Lai  
*Girls Like Us* by Randi Pink  
*So Many Beginnings* by Bethany Morrow  
*The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee  
*We Are Not Free* by Traci Chee  
*The Memory of Things* by Gae Polisner  
*Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malindo Lo  
*A Very Large Expanse of Sea* by Tehera Mafi  
*Fly Girl* by Sherri L. Smith

##### Non-Fiction & Memoir:

*Pure Grit: How American WWII Nurses Survived Battle...* by Mary Cronk Farrell  
*Chester Nez: A Navajo Codetalker's Story* by Joseph Bruchac  
*Code Talker Stories* by Lauren Tohe  
*Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom...* by Lynda Blackmon Lowery  
*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose  
*Loving Vs. Virginia* by Patricia Hruby Powell  
*Stamped* by Jason Reynolds  
*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson  
*Fly Girls: Forgotten Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII* by P. O'Connell Pearson  
*Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space* by Lynn Sherr  
*Black Birds in the Sky* by Brandy Colbert  
*They Call Us Enemy* by George Takei  
*Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow



# **PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY BOOK LABELS**





## Youth Activities

Auxiliary Award No. 1

*Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year*

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism Through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.).
  - **Citation** to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Citations will be mailed directly to the participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
  - **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention

**Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2024.**

Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the activity and/or event that educated their community about Patriotism through Literacy **and** utilizing the Random Acts of Patriotism card (R.A.P.). (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

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Department Youth Activities Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Youth Activities Ambassador Joyce Caldwell for judging.

**AND**

April 30, 2024 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org) a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

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

# NATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES AWARD FOR AUXILIARIES

**This year's National Award for Auxiliaries is for the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism Through Literacy and utilizing the Random Act of Patriotism Card (R.A.P.).**

- **Entry form due March 31, 2024.**
- **National citation to every Auxiliary that participates.**
- **Your Auxiliary may win \$25.00!**
- **Give it a try!**

# **INVOLVE YOUTH IN ALL AUXILIARY PROGRAMS**

**Teach Youth about Auxiliary efforts to:**

- **Respect and take pride in our country**
- **Serve hospitalized veterans**
- **Elect leaders who appreciate our military**
- **Pass legislation that secures benefits for our veterans**
- **And many more worthy efforts!**





**Thank You!**