



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN  
SEPTEMBER 2019  
NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS  
[www.wivfwaux.org](http://www.wivfwaux.org)

### **Patriot's Pen Essay Contest**

Patriot's Pen provides 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the opportunity to express their opinion on a patriotic theme while competing for worthwhile awards and prizes. Awards can be given at the local, district and state levels.

### **Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition**

The VFW became a national sponsor of the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition in the late 1950s and assumed sole responsibility for the program in 1961. The Voice of Democracy competition provides high schoolers the opportunity to write and record an essay on a patriotic theme, competing for more than \$2.1 million in college scholarships and incentives.

The entry deadline for both contests is **Oct. 31, 2019**.

Students can enter directly by submitting the required entry form, along with their essay and (in the case of Voice of Democracy, their recording) to a local participating VFW Post. Your local VFW Post's contact information can be obtained at [www.vfw.org/find-a-post](http://www.vfw.org/find-a-post). Entry forms and instructions can be downloaded from the VFW website at [www.vfw.org/VOD](http://www.vfw.org/VOD).

Teachers and youth leaders may also obtain student entry forms at the website mentions above. You may then select from the following options:

**Patriot's Pen (Grades 6-8):** Write a 300-400-word essay on the annual theme **What Makes America Great**.

**Voice of Democracy (Grades 9-12):** Write an essay on the annual theme **What Makes America Great**.

Use the competition as an essay contest and encourage the students with the best essays to enter the competition. All students will need to complete the entry form and forward them to the local VFW Post competition. Students in grades 9-12 will also need to record their essays in addition to submitting the written essay and entry forms to the VFW post.

**"GIVING HOPE TO VETERANS AND FAMILIES" "SERVING OUR VETERANS WITH ALOHA"**

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