

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS SEEKS

AUXILIARIES TO SPONSOR STUDENTS FOR PATRIOTIC ART CONTESTS

Does your town or area have more Auxiliaries than high schools?

Are you struggling to get entries for the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest?

Would your Auxiliary be interested in sponsoring student entries from unaffiliated Posts?

If you answered YES to any of the above, keep reading for a unique opportunity to support talented students from around the globe!

As you may be aware, in recent years the VFW and VFW Auxiliary removed the word "local" from the requirements for scholarship entry, to be replaced with Post-level or Auxiliary-level. This means students do not have to enter through the Post or Auxiliary in the town in which they live, which includes high schoolers who live in Europe and Asia, namely the children of service members stationed abroad.

But what happens when students interested in our Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and/or the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest cannot find an Auxiliary through which to enter? Or what if they have a local Auxiliary, but no Department to advance to after winning?

They need sponsors!

That is why VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters is seeking your help. We need Auxiliaries interested in welcoming the work of these talented students for competition. Our intention would be to match students without Auxiliaries to Auxiliaries without students, and also to advance Auxiliary-level winners in unaffiliated areas to Departments in their closest Conferences – for example, connecting American students living in Europe with Eastern Conference Auxiliaries, or connecting American students living in Korea with Western Conference Auxiliaries. (Note: while

U.S. citizenship is not required, non-citizens must be Permanent Residents or have applied for Permanent Resident Status and not been denied to become a U.S. citizen.)

Please be aware that any Auxiliary chosen to sponsor students in this manner would be financially responsible for costs, specifically the return mailing of the artwork. You must work with the USPS or another legitimate mail service to do so. The cost may not be insubstantial, especially when overseas shipping larger paintings or three-dimensional art pieces, which could weigh up to five pounds. Please discuss this as an Auxiliary before offering to sponsor students from unaffiliated areas.

If interested in sponsoring, please email your Department Secretaries with the subject line **Sponsoring Patriotic Art Students**. If we receive a request from a student that we feel would be a good fit, we will reach out to the Department Secretary directly.

Every eligible student deserves the chance to participate.

You can help make that possible today!