

## Youth February 2026

Time is getting away! It is already February and deadlines for Illustrating America, the Youth Patriotic Art contest, to be submitted to the local Auxiliary is March 31, 2026. Please get out to your schools, scout groups, homeschool groups with the criteria and applications ASAP! There are three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8.

### Tips:

- \*Two-dimensional art on canvas (stretcher frame or canvas board), paper with heavy paper.
- \*Do not frame original art with wood, metal, plastic or glass.
- \*Mats may be included.
- \*NO smaller than 8x10 - NO Larger than 18x24 including mat.
- \* There are three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. Each entry must include the completed contest entry form.

Please refer to all guidelines in National Program Book.

[illustrating\\_america\\_art\\_\(6\).pdf](#) We do not want any student's art entry to be disqualified on a technicality. Winning entries need to be turned in to Department by April 15, 2026

The other deadline quickly approaching is the Youth Program National Citation for, "Most creative or unique activity and/or event of the VFW Auxiliary working with a youth group." Deadline for this is March 31, 2026. Please forward your Auxiliary's completed citation form to me as the Youth Program Chairman. [youth\\_activities\\_aux\\_awar\(3\).pdf](#)

Even if you are using the hashtags with your Social Media posts and photos on the Auxiliary's activities, please email me your Auxiliary's exceptional Youth activities. [bells\\_whistles@hotmail.com](mailto:bells_whistles@hotmail.com) (That is an underscore between bells and whistles)

How has your Auxiliary used the Youth "Acts of Kindness" Certificates this year? [youth\\_act\\_of\\_kindness\\_cit\(5\).pdf](#)