

Irene Nowacki

Scholarships Chairman

Happy New Year to all!

A huge shout out to all the Auxiliary and Post members that attended the Winter Conference this past weekend. We did a collection for the Continuing Education Scholarship and presented National President Lois Callahan with a check from the donations made through MALTA and the cash donated on Saturday that totaled \$7730.00.

Lois was in tears over the generosity of the Department of Arizona. She informed me that this is the largest donation thus far that she has received from one single department. Way to go ARIZONA!!!!

We are shooting for \$10,000.00 or more. If you or your auxiliary plans on donating funds towards this scholarship, they can still be made through MALTA under the Make a Gift button, then under National President's Special Project until the National Convention held in Reno Nevada. Auxiliaries', please make sure that you let Kim Sloan know how much you have donated so that President Brenda can have a grand total for Convention. Let's see if we can hit or beat the \$10,000.00 goal.

If you are interested in submitting an entry for this scholarship, the deadline is February 15, 2026. Please make sure that your entry is emailed or mailed to National Headquarters. Any entries received after the 15th will not be accepted.

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Continuing-Education-Scholarship-25-26.pdf>

Now that Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy are over and the winners have been announced, we need to start focusing on the other contests that we have.

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art and Young American Patriotic Art Contests.

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Young-American-Creative-Patriotic-Art-Contest-Scholarship-25-26.pdf>

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/3-Dimensional-Patriotic-Art-Contest-Scholarship-25-26.pdf>

Deadlines are coming up faster than you think. March 31st is right around the corner. Have you been engaging with your schools and local youth groups. Do you have any interested individuals? Open to grades 9-12, these will be amazing pieces of art that we cannot wait to

showcase at department convention. Encourage your family members and friends to enter. Let's make this the largest turnout of art entries ever.

The end of the year for program reports is coming up. Double check your Outstanding Auxiliary checklists to make sure that you have got them all checked off.

