



# 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 and are **NOT** accepted.

#### Awards for Grades K-2

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

#### Awards for Grades 3-5

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

#### Awards for Grades 6-8

First place: \$100 gift card  
Second place: \$50 gift card  
Third place: \$25 gift card

*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.