

2011-2012 Voice of Democracy Program

All information pertaining to the theme, judging, eligibility, awards and other aspects of this program are contained in the Veterans of Foreign Wars program booklet for the 61st Annual Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program. District Chairmen are responsible to ensure that their District programs are conducted within these rules and deadlines. District Chairmen are solely responsible for the conduct of the program within their Districts. Make sure that you distribute copies of your program to all Posts in your District in sufficient time to ensure a successful competition.

The Voice of Democracy Program is a joint program with the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Michigan. The Auxiliary does not need the permission of a Post to participate in the Voice of Democracy Program. Post and District Chairmen are expected to include their Ladies Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs. Coordination of the District program is the sole responsibility of each District Chairman. Post Chairmen must refer to their District program for their District program requirements and deadline dates.

THEME: *“Is There Pride in Serving In Our Military?”*

Eligibility: Ninth (9th), Tenth (10th), Eleventh (11th) and Twelfth (12th) grade students in public, private, parochial and home schools in the State of Michigan. Former first place winners at the State and National level competition or any foreign exchange student are not eligible. **Students do not have to be a relative of a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Ladies Auxiliary to participate.**

Recording: Recorded scripts must not be less than THREE (3) minutes nor longer than FIVE (5) minutes. A five (5) second variation is acceptable to compensate for the possible deviation in equipment. Scripts MUST be recorded on full size standard AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE OR CD ONLY. Record all tapes or CD's on a single track. Scripts must be recorded without music or background voice. Students must not use their names, the name or location of the sponsoring VFW unit, or the name or location of their school. Recordings must not include any introduction of the script. The only voice on the recording must be that of the student's. Special consideration may be given for students that are speech challenged upon written request through District to Department. Scripts should be recorded using the best possible equipment available. Post and District Chairmen are responsible for the content and quality of the entry. Every effort should be made to submit the best quality entry possible.

2011-2012 "PATRIOT'S PEN" ESSAY Program

All information pertaining to the theme, judging, eligibility, awards and other aspects of this program are contained in the Veterans of Foreign Wars program booklet for the Patriot's Pen Essay Program. District Chairmen are responsible to ensure that their District programs are conducted within these rules and deadlines. District Chairmen are solely responsible for the conduct of the program within their Districts. Make sure that you distribute copies of your program to all Posts in your District in sufficient time to ensure a successful competition.

The Patriot's Pen Essay Program is a joint program with the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Michigan. The Auxiliary does not need the permission of a Post to participate in the Patriot's Pen Essay Program. Post and District Chairmen are expected to include their Ladies Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs. Coordination of the District program is the sole responsibility of each District Chairman. Post Chairmen must refer to their District program for their District program requirements and deadline dates.

THEME: *"Are You Proud of Your Country?"*

Eligibility: Sixth (6th), Seventh (7th) and Eighth (8th) grade students in public, private, parochial and home schools in the State of Michigan. Former first place winners at the State and National level competition or any foreign exchange student are not eligible. Students do not have to be a relative of a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Ladies Auxiliary to participate.

ESSAY: Essays must be typed or computer printed in English, between 300-400 words, on a single sheet of paper, with no added color or art.

Entries: