Youth Activities Bulletin #2 | October 2023

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How are y'all doing on working with our future leaders tomorrow?

R.A.P. (Random Acts of Patriotism): Are you involved in supporting youth activities? Are you giving out R.A.P. rewards for their love of our Veterans and devotion to our country? I am giving you a gentle reminder of some of the activities you can do with your youth such as teaching how to fold the American flag, Flag retirement ceremonies, writing and sending cards to our Active Duty Veterans, Senior Veterans, Veterans that are ill and all other, including members of the VFW.

There are so many other activities that demonstrate Random Acts of Patriotism so get creative and let's get going!

PATRIOTIMS THROUGH LITERACY - reading among our youth in honor of Carla Martinez 2023-2034 National President Veterans of Foreign Wars.

There are many books on the suggestion list in **Malta** for grades pre-K through grades 9-12. There are also award citations for reading books.

GET EXITED OR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE

This is our National Anthem VIDEO Singing Contest. The entry will be judged on vocal ability, mastery of lyrics, originality or interpretation and entertainment value.

Eligibility students from k-12 with a video of contestant's solo vocal performance of the <u>Star-Spangled Banner</u> must be recorded between July 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024. Must be a live unedited version. More details on the entry form.

March 31: Entries to Auxiliary

April 15: Winners advance to the district (optional) and advance to Auxiliary Department.

May 5: Winners advance to VFW National Headquarters

ILLUSTRATING AMERICA ART CONTEST

Eligibility Students grades K-8

Patriotism through art National Art Contest. Entries are judged on patriotic themes and technique. The rules are on the entry form.

March 31: Student deadline to submit to your Auxiliary.

April 15: Winners submitted to District (optional) then to Department for judging.

May 5: One winner submitted to National.

TIPS FOR WORKING WITH YOUTH From National

National Headquarters has put out a great tool to use for working with the youth. I highly recommend you go to the Auxiliary website or go through Malta and download a copy as a reference. It has to do a lot with respect for our youths and their families and to follow protocol.

**All the information you will need including reward cards and forms will either be on the Department of Washing webpage Vfwauxwa.org or visit Malta, Reports, Forms and documents, Youth Activities or contact me by email Golfin75@gmail.com

Keep the commitment for the most important thing we own is our word.

Tracie Tomsen

Department of Washington Youth Activities

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