

2023-2024 "VOICE OF DEMOCRACY" ESSAY Program

"What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"

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 Voice of Democracy Essay Program.

The Voice of Democracy Essay Program is a joint program with the VFW 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 Essay Program. Post Chairmen are expected to include their VFW Auxiliary counterparts in all activities concerning the conduct of local and District programs.

The following items **MUST** accompany the Post entry to District for judging.

- One student script taped in accordance with the rules. Scripts **MUST** be recorded on full size standard FLASH DRIVE ONLY.
- One **completed** student entry form from the National Program booklet
- One good quality head and shoulder photograph. Wallet size.
- One typed copy of the student's speech.
- One **signed** Department of Michigan VFW School Release Form, Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Competition
- One **completed** Student Biographical Questionnaire 2023-2024
- One **completed** Post Voice of Democracy Participation Report

It is the responsibility of the Post Chairman to ensure that all materials are included. Any entry that does not include all materials may not be judged.

To obtain program credit the Post Chairman portion of the Student Entry Form must be completed and submitted to District with each Post entry. The form must include the number of students participating from the school and the approximate cost for the program and awards for that school. Proper credit cannot be given without this information.