

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



Auxiliary Department of Idaho

2024-2025 General Order

Youth Activities #2



Now is the time to get your Youth Activities program packages together to go out to your local schools, youth sports teams, after school programs and home school associations. Give this information to grandkids, members children, and to your local neighborhood kids. Make sure to have dates and contact names and add your Auxiliary and National awards

October is National Book Month with you Promoting and supporting **Patriotism Through Literacy** among the youth at your local library or school library during free reading times. Teach kids about various times in American history and expose students to experiences unlike their own. Foster then for love of books that leads then to a lifetime of learning. Spend time with kids in the community in new, creative ways and help our youth gain a better understanding of American history through nonfiction.

Youth Activities Auxiliary Award No.1 2024-2025 Program Year is most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/ or veterans reading to youth. Citation and \$25 will go to one of the VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth. Go to <https://vfwauxiliary.org> at MALTA Member Login under Member Resource where you can find information on the Youth Activities Contest. If you need paperwork on the Youth Activities e-mail me on what you may need at doreneray@icloud.com and I will e-mail or mail any information to you. Make sure to give E-mail or your Address were to send information.

R.A.P. Cards are awarded for a good job well done, good grades, etc. and what better award to receive? R.A.P. stands for: **RANDOM ACTS OF PATRIOTISM**. Give youth observing patriotism, thanking a veteran, witnessed a child or youth place their hand over their heart correctly and show respect to our American Flag, give them a R.A.P. card. Go to MALTA member Resources, Youth Activities, to locate a template to print out. Try this fun and unique way to engage youth and encourage their patriotism.

The Holiday seasons is a good time to get with youth groups with **Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups**. You can engage youth in any one of our Programs, including activities to honor our veterans or assist our service members and their families. You can host a TRUNK-OR-TREAT for Halloween with your local schools. Help your community with the schools fall or harvest carnivals . Have the school students send out Holiday Cards or visit

the local VA Home and surrounding Assistant Living Facilities for an activity. Show these youth and your community that we care This is where you can honor individual youth for their patriotism and /or support of our veterans, service members and their families by presenting them with a **Patriotic Youth Award**. A fillable printable version is available in MALTA Member Resources under Youth Activities

There is an update on the **Illustrating American Contest** from National that now require that the students name and grade are written on the back of every art entry. The use of any other version will disqualify the entrant at National level. Make sure the entry forms are correct and completed. The art's entry matt is included in the art size. Go to <https://vfwauxiliary.org> at MALTA Member Login under Member Resource where you can find the new from that was **Revised September 2024**

Upcoming Dates to keep in mind:

October- National Book Month

Veterans Day- November 11,2024

Thanksgiving-November 28, 2024

December- Read a New Book Month

Pearl Harbor Day-December 7, 2024

Wreaths Across America December14, 2024

Christmas -December 25,2024

New Years-January 1, 2025

“Wishing you warm and festive fun as you welcome in the holidays!”

National President Brenda Bryant theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans. and Department of Idaho President Denise Sampo theme: “Together Everyone Achieves More!”

Respectfully,
Department of Idaho Youth Activities Chairmen
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