



Get Excited for the **Red, White and Blue!**

VFW Auxiliary National Singing Contest
for eligible students in grades K-12

2023-2024

A video solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner



Entry will be judged on vocal ability, mastery of lyrics, originality or interpretation and entertainment value.

Contest Eligibility

- Open to students in grades **K-12** by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial school 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 20 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous *Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!* students may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous National winner.

Contest Rules

- One entry per contestant.
- Video of contestant's solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner must be recorded between **July 1, 2023 and March 31 2024**.
- Video must be a recorded live unedited version.
- Student shall state name, age and grade level prior to vocal performance.
- Student may sing a cappella, with backing tracks or instruments.
- Student may sing in the arrangement and genre of their choice.
- Student may **NOT** change the words.
- Student may **NOT** lip sync.
- Complete and sign contest entry form. Parent/Guardian signature required on entry form.
- Video must be saved on a media platform of the VFW Auxiliary choice and submitted with a completed entry form for judging.

VFW Auxiliary National Awards

Grades K-8

First place: \$500 gift card
Second place: \$300 gift card
Third place: \$200 gift card

Grades 9-12

First place: \$500 gift card
Second place: \$300 gift card
Third place: \$200 gift card

VFW Auxiliary is not responsible for incomplete, lost, late, misdirected or poor-quality video 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

VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner from 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 from each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of winners via the email address provided on the entry form. First through third place winners named in each of the two grade divisions on VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters social media pages and shown at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.



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2023-2024 Contest Entry Form

Please **print** or complete fillable form at vfwauxiliary.org
This form must be submitted with the video entry at all levels of judging.

Student Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

**I certify that all the contest requirements have been met and that I am the sole author of the attached/enclosed video entry. By entering the contest, I grant the VFW Auxiliary royalty-free rights to use, edit, share, publish and broadcast my contest video entry for the Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! national anthem singing contest for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary. I understand the video will not be sold but will remain the property of the VFW Auxiliary.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: * _____ Date: _____

Sponsoring/Participating VFW Auxiliary Contact or VFW Auxiliary Department Contact information:

Representative Name: _____ Representative Phone: _____

Representative email: _____

This section to be filled out by VFW Auxiliary at each judging level.

National Headquarters only accepts Department level first-place winners.

Any other entries received at National Headquarters will be disqualified.

Sponsoring VFW Auxiliary No.: _____ Department of: _____

Please check the appropriate grade division.

This first place entry is for grad division: Grade K-8 _____ OR Grade 9-12 _____

March 31: Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

April 15: One winner in each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.

Department Youth Activities Chairman verification signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Final Level - Department first-place entry must be received at
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by **May 5** or it will be disqualified.
ATTN: Program Awards Administrator