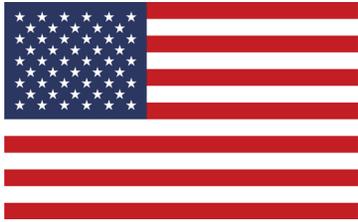


YOUNG AMERICAN *creative* PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

COMMON MISTAKES & HELPFUL HINTS

The VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest provides an incredible scholarship opportunity for young artists while promoting patriotism throughout schools and homeschool associations. Follow the advice below to ensure that every student who enters the contest has the best possible chance of realizing his or her dreams.



USING THE U.S. FLAG

As a powerful symbol of our country, the U.S. Flag is often used in art entries. It can also be a source of problems for judges and Auxiliary Chairmen. When notifying schools, homeschool associations and students about the contest, give them a copy of the Federal Flag Code and encourage participants to closely examine the U.S. Flag before using it in their art.

COMMON MISTAKES:

- Not enough stars or stripes.
- Stripes in the wrong order or place.
- The Flag appearing to have someone standing on it, or something written or lying on it.

HINT: It is always best to portray the Flag as waving freely.



TO MAT OR NOT TO MAT?

All two-dimensional art (except pieces on a stretcher frame) must be matted **ONLY IN WHITE**. **The use of a color mat will result in immediate disqualification.** Colored mats can give an entry an unfair advantage by drawing out color or setting off contrast. It is very important that mats **ONLY BE WHITE**. Double mats are accepted if they are **ONLY WHITE**.

APPLICATION

When a student submits an art entry and contest application, check for the following:

- Legible writing (If you can't decipher the writing, chances are we can't either.)
- Address with city, state and ZIP Code (No P.O. Boxes. We cannot ship art back to a P.O. Box.)
- Phone number with area code.
- Email address.
- Name and signature of teacher or parent/guardian.
- Signature of student.
- Source - this must be completed even if it says "original idea."
- Media used in entry.
- Signature of Auxiliary Chairman and Judge (*Department Chairmen: Do not send the Department-winning entry to National Headquarters without these signatures!*)
- **ARTWORK NOT SPONSORED BY A LOCAL VFW AUXILIARY WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT BEING JUDGED.**

TIP: Students may sign their art, but you may choose to cover the signature for local judging if you are concerned a judge may recognize a student's name.

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please print or complete this form in an unlined notebook.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 EMAIL: _____ DATE ART COMPLETED: _____
 SCHOOL: _____ GRADE: _____

Teacher's or supervising adult's signature verifying that the entry was done by you:
 TEACHER OR PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Parent/guardian signature verifying that the student is the author of the entry:
 PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Source: _____

PLEASE ATTACH A TYPED EXPLANATION OF THE ENTRY (250-300 words)

ARTWORK NOT SPONSORED BY A LOCAL VFW AUXILIARY WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT BEING JUDGED.

SPONSORED BY: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

DATE JUDGED: _____ VFW AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN: _____
 CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES SIGNATURE: _____

DISTRICT JUDGING: _____
 DATE JUDGED: _____ DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN: _____
 CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES SIGNATURE: _____

DEPARTMENT JUDGING: _____
 DATE JUDGED: _____ DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN: _____
 CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES SIGNATURE: _____

Department Headquarters art entry must be received by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or it will be disqualified.
 405 West 24th Street, 5201 First Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111



PACKING THE ART

We highly recommend that you have a professional mailing store package the art for shipment. Do not use old, bent or torn cardboard for packaging. If the cardboard can bend, so can the art. Consider insuring the art and getting a delivery confirmation. National Headquarters is not responsible for art lost or damaged during shipment.

Visit www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for contest eligibility requirements, rules and an application.