

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Bulletin #1

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I will highlight a single part of the program for each bulletin that I send out. The first will be Get Excited for the Red White & Blue. This highlights the talent of the youth in your area!

I know from watching my local high school musicals in my area that I am always amazed at the talent these youths have! Our local theater even has a couple productions that are put on by children only from 4th grade to 9th grade and these kids are phenomenal!

You don't have to just contact the schools or youth groups. If you know someone who has a great voice, get them to enter!

Now is also the time to get letters out to your local grade schools, high schools, church groups as well as getting a press release sent to the local media about this program (see attached with this bulletin). The areas that are in red need to be filled out by the chairman. Entry forms will be available at the Department website – www.vfwauxiliaryil.org under Youth Activities or at the National website – www.vfwauxiliary.org/what-we-do/youth-activities starting on July 1st.

GET EXCITED FOR THE RED WHITE AND BLUE: This program helps in learning the lyrics to the The Star Spangled Banner while promoting their creative side.

This contest consists of a *SOLO* vocal performance of “The Star Spangled Banner” that has been recorded between July 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023. The performance must be submitted on a flash drive or uploaded to an online video platform, for example: YouTube or Vimeo. Vocals can be either acappella or with backing tracks, or instruments. The arrangement can be sung in an arrangement or genre of the contestant's preference. **NO WORDS CAN BE CHANGED!** A completed contest entry form with Parent/Guardian signature is required.

This contest is open to anyone in grades K-12 who are in public, private, parochial or who are home schooled in the United States, the territories and possessions, or the dependents of US Military/Civilian Personnel in overseas schools. There will be winners in 2 grade divisions: K-8 and 9-12. The contestant must be a US Citizen or US National.

No relationship to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member is needed to enter. Foreign Exchange or Students who are over 20 years old are not eligible. If you were a winner of previous Get Excited contests, you are eligible as long as it isn't the same grade division.

