

# VFW Announces Kick-Off of Youth Scholarship Competitions

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The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) is pleased to announce the kick-off of the 2015-16 VFW's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarship competitions. The announcement comes just weeks after students from across the globe took home their share of the more than \$3 million in scholarships and awards from last year's competitions.

The VFW's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay competitions are dedicated to encouraging a better understanding and appreciation for our great country and fostering patriotism among our nation's youth. Students are asked to submit an essay in response to a question or statement on a subject which prompts them to consider how American history and democratic ideals and principles apply to their lives.

This year's Voice of Democracy theme asks students to contemplate, "My Vision for America." The Voice of Democracy scholarship competition is an audio-essay competition open to students in grades 9-12. The national winner will receive the \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship Award.

The Patriot's Pen competition is open to students in grades 6-8. This year, students are asked to reflect on the statement, "What Freedom Means to Me." The national winner will receive a \$5,000 award.

Student participants are asked to submit their entry (along with a completed entry form) to their participating local VFW Post. The deadline for student entries in both contests is November 1, 2015.

Click [here](http://www.vfw.org/Youth) to find your local VFW Post. For more information on the contests, visit [www.vfw.org/Youth](http://www.vfw.org/Youth).

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