## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

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Hello Auxiliaries

By now you should have started promoting Illustrating America and Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue contests by announcing at your Posts, sending local schools information, reaching out to home-school families or organizations.

#### **ILLUSTRATING AMERICA**

This is a patriotic art contest and consists of 3 grade divisions:  $K-2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$  and  $6^{th} - 8^{th}$ . Contest eligibility, rules and applications can be found at vfwauxin.org/resources to print.

### **GET EXCITED FOR THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE**

This is an individual singing contest open to youth in grade divisions K-8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. Youth can send a video of themselves singing "The Star-Spangled Banner". Contest eligibility, rules and application are available at vfwauxin.org/resources to print.

#### PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY

This promotes and supports reading historical fiction and nonfiction among youth. Introduce youth to historical figures and teach them about events in our nation's history. You could host a read-athon and award small prizes for number of books read or hours read. Donate historical fiction or nonfiction books to your local library, schools or shelters.

### **CREATE, SPONSOR AND WORK WITH YOUTH GROUPS**

Engage youth in any one of our programs, including activities to honor our veterans or assist our service members and their families. Start talking at your meetings on how to include youth groups in activities supporting our veterans. Involve them in Auxiliary programs to teach them about our efforts. Do you have patriotic holiday parades??? Include them. Do you have volunteers at your Auxiliary that rake leaves, shovel snow or do home repairs for our veterans, service members and their families??? Include them. Let them help with your poppy sales.

# YOUTH GROUPS SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS CITATIONS AND PATRIOTIC YOUTH AWARD

Recognize youth groups for their efforts and service projects honoring our veterans and assisting service members and their families by presenting them with the Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citation or an individual youth by presenting them with the Patriotic Youth Award available at vfwauxin.org/resources.

Youth Activities guide books were distributed to District Presidents for each Auxiliary at School of Instruction.

Please call, text or email me with any questions!!