

YOUTH ACTIVITIES-ROTC/JROTC & SONS OF THE VFW

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Every year, hundreds of thousands of students participate in the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition and the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest, garnering more than \$3.4 million in scholarships and incentives. In addition to VFW's outstanding scholarship programs, Posts and Auxiliaries across the nation work with youth in scouting, sports, ROTC, military cadet programs and our Sons of the VFW program. By providing leaders, funding, sponsorships and other resources, the VFW and its Auxiliaries encourage millions of America's young adults to higher ideals and greater personal achievement.

Post and District Chairman should refer to the National VFW Programs Guide "It's About Service" for more information on the VFW Youth Hero Award, Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, Scout of the Year Award and Youth Cadet Awards Programs.

Youth development, scholarship and recognition materials are available from VFW Emblem and Supply, or by visiting www.vfwdepartmentresources.org

YOUTH CADETS (ROTC/JROTC) PROGRAM

The National Youth Cadet Awards Program allows Posts to recognize outstanding achievement and leadership in Junior and Senior ROTC programs, Naval Sea Cadets and Civil Air Patrol Cadets. These awards provide your Post an outstanding opportunity to honor these young patriotic people and spread the word about the good works that the VFW does in communities.

Awards may be initiated by a Post or by the Cadet's unit. All Posts and Districts should make every attempt to honor these requests by purchasing a certificate and medal from VFW Emblem & Supply Store and having a representative make the award presentation on behalf of the Post or District.

Please refer to the National VFW Programs Guide "It's About Service" for more information on the Youth Cadet Award Program.

SONS OF THE VFW

PURPOSE

The purpose of forming Sons of the VFW Unit within your Post is to provide an ideal base for implementing all your Youth Activities Programs. The Unit will enhance your Post's Community Service Programs by their participation in all your events. The Unit will serve as a vehicle for launching major national youth programs such as Junior Rifle, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Youth Baseball and Scouting. Sons of the VFW Unit in your Post will help build your membership by recruiting parents and grandparents of eligible sons. The Sons will learn the meaning of true democracy from association with loyal American Patriots of our Order in a parent-son relationship that our Youth of today need. The Unit can assist you in distributing Buddy Poppies and Poppy Boards.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the Sons of the VFW, a boy must be between the ages of 8 and 18 with a parent or grandparent merely being eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

CHARTER A SONS OF THE VFW UNIT

You only need the names of ten (10) eligible sons or grandsons. There is no fee nor State or National per capita tax. The Sons of the VFW Unit themselves set a minimal amount for their dues, with the approval of the Post.

HOW TO REPORT

PLEASE NOTE NEW REPORTING FORM (visit our home page at www.vfwca.org or go to www.ca.vfwportal.net/) and enter your program reporting information.
PLEASE NOTE – FORM 12'S ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED

Important! – To qualify for awards a Post must send a copy of the Program Reporting (Form 12) to the Department Chairman with all applicable attachments.

AWARDS - YOUTH ACTIVITIES & ROTC/JROTC

Awards will be presented at the State Convention as follows unless otherwise noted elsewhere in this guide:

- 1st Place (Post & District) will be awarded a plaque, based on Chairman Recommendation.
- 2nd and 3rd Place (Post & District) will be awarded a certificate.

AWARDS - SONS OF THE VFW

Plaques shall be awarded at the State Convention in the following categories:

- Outstanding Unit
- Outstanding Unit Advisor
- Outstanding Unit Commander.