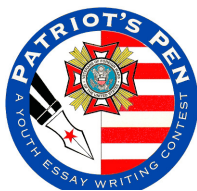


From the Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen / Teacher's Award Chairman:



Comrades,

Hopefully some have had the opportunity to promote this year's VOD / Patriot Pen / Teachers award program before the summer school break. If not, start making your preparations and making contacts with schools and students in your areas as soon as school is back in session. A student can enter even if the school does not want to participate in the program.

The themes for this year's programs are:

VOD - "Why My Vote Matters"

PP - "Why I Honor the American Flag"

Qualifications and necessary entry forms can be found by going to www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships. More information can also be found at www.vfw.org. Login and go to the My VFW tab, then under "Member Resources" click on "VFW Training and Support", select "Community Service & Youth Programs" then select the "Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Competition", "Patriot's Pen Youth Essay Contest" and "Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award".

Entry deadline to the Post is 31 October 2018. In order to qualify for All-State and All-American, each Post and District must submit entries for all three programs or make a donation to VFW National. If there are Posts or Districts that do not have any entries in their area you may make your donations by going to https://vfwprograms.formstack.com/forms/programs_donation_form. Post donations are \$50.00 and District donation is \$100.00 for each program. The deadline for donations is also 31 October 2018. Please forward your donation receipt to <mailto:vodppdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org> to get credit.

District commanders, please let me know who your DISTRICT CHAIRMAN is for the VOD / Patriot Pen / Teachers Award's program as soon as possible. Please send names and email addresses to <mailto:vodppdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org>.

"VFW – Make It Happen, Get It Done"

Yours in comradeship and service,

Don Kelley
Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen / Teacher's Award Chairman
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