VFW Auxiliary Department of Connecticut

YOUTH ACTIVITIES -Bulletin 1

The VFW Auxiliary works to teach our nation's youth the skills to become responsible adults through serving our country, communities, veterans and service members. We engage young people in positive volunteer experiences and believe every young person can find a place to serve that will improve their lives, as well as the lives they experience.

The Youth Activities Program:

- Sponsors and work with youth groups such as: Youth sports teams, Church youth groups, After-school programs, Youth-focused organizations, School clubs, Homeschool associations, Youth community service groups, Nonprofit organization youth advisory councils, Service learning and civic departments in high schools and colleges
- Patriotism through Literacy -Introduces youth to historical figures and teaches them about events in our nation's history while fostering a love of reading that can lead to a lifetime of learning.
- <u>Illustrating America</u> (More Information to come)
 A patriotic art contest for elementary and middle/junior high school students that encourages students' artistic abilities and rewards their hard work. It's fun to see how our youth see the world through their drawings and paintings.
- Recognizes Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.)
 We encourage and reward patriotism through R.A.P. If a child is seen thanking a veteran, properly placing their hand on their heart during the Pledge of Allegiance, or is involved in some other activity that promotes patriotism, we suggest giving them a R.A.P. card and/or coin. It's a fun and unique way to engage children of elementary age and younger
- Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans
 Youth groups can be recognized for their efforts and service projects, honoring our
 veterans and assisting active-duty military and their families. Great traditions and
 citizenship start at an early age. We recognize these bright young citizens for their
 good work to ensure these activities become a part of their daily lives.

"Grateful Hearts Serving Our Veterans"

"From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free"
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