



VOICE ★ OF DEMOCRACY

AUDIO-ESSAY COMPETITION

VOD WINNER 2025



\$35,000

NATIONAL FIRST-PLACE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Over **\$2 MILLION** in educational scholarships
and incentives awarded every year!



2026-2027
THEME

"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"



ELIGIBILITY

Open to students
in grades 9-12
enrolled in a public,
private, parochial
school, or home-
study program in
the U.S. and its
territories.



FORMAT

Create a 3-to-5-minute
(+/- 5 seconds) audio
essay on this year's
theme. Your entry
includes:

- ✓ Recorded audio essay
- ✓ Typed essay
- ✓ Entry form

Submit digitally through
your local VFW Post
(often via Scholar's App).



PRIZES

Scholarships and
incentives are awarded
at the local, district,
state and national levels.

Prizes range from
\$1,000 at the state
level to the
\$35,000 national
grand prize!



DEADLINE

All entries must be
submitted to your
local VFW Post by

OCTOBER 31, 2026



**YOUR VOICE.
YOUR STORY.
OUR FUTURE.**



SCAN TO ENTER

YOUR LOCAL POST

POST 180

ENTRY FORM & DETAILS: <https://bit.ly/4dMoqHa>