



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS & AUXILIARY

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

237-20 92nd Road Bellerose, NY 11426-1110

703-549-3622 • admin@cwv.org

ESTABLISHED BY PATRIOTS – BLESSED BY POPE PIUS XI – CHARTERED BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS

Revised Date: December 1, 2025

TO: 3rd Vice Commanders & 3rd Vice Presidents - ALL Echelons

FROM: National Youth Committee Chairpersons

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National 3rd Vice Commander
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SUBJECT: 2025 - 2026 NATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAM

We have always believed that the National Youth Program administered by the Veterans 3rd Vice Commander and Auxiliary 3rd Vice President is one of the most important programs for our organization. If our 3rd Vice Officers capture and retain the interest of our youth, they will treasure the memories of their participation with our organization and may join or support us in the future.

Romans 12:2 teaches, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." I believe our Program provides our youth with the mechanism to accomplish those goals.

The 3rd Vice Commander and 3rd Vice President are responsible for organizing and planning youth welfare and youth activities. Youth Activity Contests, scholarship applications, school or civic athletic team sponsorship, and support of non-profit local youth organizations are a few examples. We can also help them channel their energies into constructive pursuits and away from the negative temptations and distractions in their environments. We must encourage our youth to take every opportunity to display patriotism and honor service to our country. Our goal is to keep young minds busy. A well engaged mind may be the one link which will help them say "NO" to drugs and alcohol, and other temptations in a society that has lost its way.

When an Auxiliary Unit is affiliated to a Post, the National Youth Committee recommends that the 3rd Vice Commander and Auxiliary 3rd Vice President coordinate their Youth Program activities and involve as many individuals as possible. The Youth Activity Contests program requires a considerable amount of time and effort. Ensure that you set your Post and Auxiliary deadline dates early enough to facilitate participation, submission of contest entries, contest judging at the Post / Auxiliary echelon, and subsequent submission of winners and judging at the Department level.

- **The published deadline date is when winning entries must be at National Headquarters.**
- **Late entries will not be judged.**

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Youth Activity Contests and Scholarship Application

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Contest</u>	<u>Deadline for submissions to be at National HQ</u>
Grades	3 - 5 Veterans Day Patriotic Poster Contest	December 15, 2025
Grades	3 - 5 Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest	January 15, 2026
Grades	K - 2 Valentine's Day Coloring Book Contest	March 15, 2026
Grades	6 - 8 Religious Easter Poster Contest	April 15, 2026
Grades	6 – 8 Essay Contest – Topic: <i>"Now that our country is 250 years old, what can we do to improve our country?"</i>	May 15, 2026
Grade	12 Thomas J. Cuite & Immaculate Conception Burse Scholarship	June 1, 2026

- Youth Activity Contest Rules and Awards can be viewed and downloaded from the CWV.ORG website link: <https://thecwv.org/resource-library/>

- The Thomas J. Cuite & Immaculate Conception Burse (ICB) Scholarship foundation awards a maximum of five (5) \$1,000 scholarship grants in the applicant's name paid directly to the applicant's accredited college or university upon receipt of proof of acceptance from the school. Begin the application process early to avoid missing the June 1st deadline! The scholarship foundation rules and application can be viewed and downloaded from the CWV.ORG website link: <https://thecwv.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/CWV-Scholarship-Application.pdf>

Youth Activity Contest Winners

1. Each Post and Auxiliary Unit should determine their winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd place). These winners are then forwarded to their Department echelon for judging. Posts and Auxiliary units not under a Department should pick one (1) winner and forward it directly to National Headquarters via email.
2. The Department echelon will judge contest winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd place).
3. The Department will then forward three (3) winners to National Headquarters for judging. When a state has a Department echelon for both the Veterans and the Auxiliary, National HQ will only accept three (3) entries regardless of whether the entry was sponsored by a Post or an Auxiliary Unit.
4. All entries to the National echelon should be scanned digitally into a PDF or JPEG file and sent as an attachment in the email. Please do not embed digital images into the text of the email.
5. All entries for the National echelon must arrive at National HQ on or before the deadline date.

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6. Late entries will not be judged.

7. National Headquarter E-mail is: admin@cwv.org.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS Please view and download the respective Youth Program reporting requirements for the Post's 3rd Vice Commander and the Auxiliary 3rd Vice President found on the CWV.ORG website. Although the Youth Program is being administered jointly, the reporting requirements are different.

If you have any questions regarding the revised correspondence, please contact the National 3rd Vice Commander or National 3rd Vice President.

Respectfully yours,
National CWV/CWVA Youth Committee

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