



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 1197

The distribution of this information and materials through the school district does not imply District 101 endorsement.

ENTRY FORM & DETAILS: <https://bit.ly/4nheQk8>