AMERICANISM

Contest Instructions and Forms for 2023/2024







Co-sponsored by the membership of AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, and Sons of AMVETS

Flag Coloring

(grades K & 1)

Poster

(grades 2, 3, 4, 5)

Essay

(grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)

Department Prize Structure for Americanism Contests 2023-2024

Kdg 3 rd Grades	1st Place - \$50	2 nd Place - \$25	3 rd Place - \$15.00
4 th – 5 th Grades	1st Place - \$75	2 nd Place - \$50	3 rd Place - \$25.00
6 th – 8 th Grades	1st Place - \$100	2 nd Place - \$50	3 rd Place - \$25.00
9 th – 10 th Grades	1st Place - \$150	2 nd Place - \$75	3 rd Place - \$30.00
11 th – 12 th Grades	1st Place - \$200	2 nd Place - \$100	3 rd Place - \$50.00

All prizes noted above are Money Orders, rather than cash, check or Gift Cards.

winners.

that level.

SAMPLE SHEET TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOLS AMVET, AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY, and Sons of AMVETS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN **AMERICANISM FLAG COLORING CONTEST 2023-2024**

We, the members of the AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, & Sons of AMVETS firmly believe that the children of the United

exp	tes of America should be encouraged to express their patriotism and loyalty to the wonderful land of the free. To furtheress this belief, we are sponsoring a statewide Flag Coloring Contest. We ask your permission to hold such a contest ong the students under your jurisdiction. Listed below are the rules of the contest as outlined by our State Department					
1.	The contest is open to all students in Kindergarten and 1 st grade who attend public, private or parochial schools, are home schooled or are involved with Scouting or faith-based groups.					
2.	The Theme is: Color the American Flag Templat e. Using the template (or copy of template) provided, students in this age group must color the flag and answer the 4 questions that are included on the template.					
3.	Local entries must be presented to an AMVET or Ladies Auxiliary representative on or before					
4.	Department entries must be either hand-delivered with a return receipt from the Ladies Auxiliary Americanism Chairperson by April 1, 2024 or mailed to same and postmarked by April 1, 2024. Entries must have the completed, signed official Department Entry form attached.					
5.	Entries must be on the template provided and may be colored using markers or crayons.					
6.	Entries will be judged on each of the following categories: A. Use of template, or copy, provided B. Neatness C. Answers to questions					
7.	Each entry <u>must</u> include the full name, birth date, address (including zip code), phone number, and grade of the student. Name, address and phone number of the parent or guardian must also be included. Please remember to indicate the name of the child's teacher and school affiliation.					
8.	Locals and Districts may award prizes with the value to be determined by members.					
9.	The Department shall award the following prizes for Kindergarten and First Grade winning entries: 1^{st} Place - \$50 2^{nd} Place - \$25 3^{rd} Place - \$15					
10.	Judging will be done by lay people, not necessarily professionals, with the exception of one being a professional. Judge may include AMVETS or members of one of their subsidiary organizations.					
11.	District or Local Posts/Auxiliaries shall submit their 1 st place winners (one from each grade level) to the Department Chairperson on the official Department Entry form. If a local entry wins on the District level, the local may submit their 2 nd place entry.					

13. The original 2nd and 3rd place entries shall be returned at the close of the Department Convention. Copies of 1st place Department winners are given to the students so that their original entry can be submitted to National for judging at

12. The Department shall notify the sponsoring AMVET/Ladies Auxiliary Post and District of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

SAMPLE SHEET TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOLS AMVET, AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY, and Sons of AMVETS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN AMERICANISM POSTER CONTEST 2023-2024

We, the members of the AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, & Sons of AMVETS firmly believe that the children of the United States of America should be encouraged to express their patriotism and loyalty to the wonderful land of the free. To further express this belief, we are sponsoring a statewide Poster Contest. We ask your permission to hold such a contest among the students under your jurisdiction. Listed below are the rules of the contest as outlined by our State Department:

1.	The contest is open to all students in the 2 nd through 5 th grades who attend public, private or parochial schools, are home schooled or are involved with Scouting or faith-based groups.						
2.	The Theme is: "Why is it Important to Vote?"						
3.	Local entries must be presented to an AMVET or Ladies Auxiliary representative on or before						
4.	Department entries must be either hand-delivered with a return receipt from the Ladies Auxiliary Americanism Chairperson by April 1, 2024 or mailed to same and postmarked by April 1, 2024. Entries must have the completed, signed official Department Entry form attached.						
5.	All entries must address the theme and be free-hand drawings using pen, pencil, crayon, paint or any combination of these media. A straight-edge may be used as an aid to draw a straight line.						
6.	Gluing pictures or other materials to the surface of the drawing is not allowed.						
7.	Entries must be 9" x 12" using construction paper or poster board.						
8.	A written description of the entry, in 50 words or less, must be written on the back of the drawing. Descriptions that are firmly attached to the back of the poster will also be accepted.						
9.	Entries will be judged on each of the following categories:						
	a. Artistic Ability b. Adherence to Theme c. Neatness						
10.	Each entry <u>must</u> include the full name, birth date, address (including zip code), phone number, and grade of the student. Name, address and phone number of the parent or guardian must also be included. Please remember to indicate the name of the child's teacher and school affiliation.						
11.	Locals and Districts may award prizes with the value to be determined by members. Local Awards: 2 nd Grade 3 rd Grade 4 th Grade 5 th Grade 1 st Place						
12.	The Department shall award the following prizes:						
	2 nd Grade 3 rd Grade 4 th Grade 5 th Grade						
	1 st Place \$50 \$50 \$75 \$75						
	2 nd Place \$25 \$25 \$50 \$50						
	3 rd Place \$15 \$15 \$25 \$25						

- 13. Judging will be done by lay people, not necessarily professionals, with the exception of one being a professional. Judge, may include AMVETS or members of one of their subsidiary organizations.
- 14. District or Local Posts/Auxiliaries shall submit their 1st place winners (one from each grade level) to the Department Chairperson on the official Department Entry form. If a local entry wins on the District level, the local may submit their 2nd place entry.
- 15. The Department shall notify the sponsoring AMVET/Ladies Auxiliary Post and District of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.
- 16. The original 2nd and 3rd place entries shall be returned at the close of the Department Convention. Copies of 1st place Department winners are given to the students so that their original entry can be submitted to National for judging at that level.

SAMPLE SHEET TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOLS AMVET, AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY, and Sons of AMVETS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN **AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST 2023-2024**

We, the members of the AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, & Sons of AMVETS firmly believe that the children of the United States of America should be encouraged to express their patriotism and loyalty to the wonderful land of the free. To further st

								such a contest among the Department:	;
1.				the 6 th throu Scouting or f			d public, priva	te or parochial schools, a	re
2.	The Theme is: "Why is it Important to Vote?"								
3.	Local entrie	s must be pr	esented to a	n AMVET or	Ladies Auxilia	ary representa	itive on or be	fore	
4.	Chairperson	n by April 1,	2024 or mai		and postmar	=		s Auxiliary Americanism es must have the comple	
5.	All students	must addres	ss the theme	e and may be	written in in	k, typed or pro	oduced on a c	omputer.	
6.	words or le		O th Grade stu	dents should				should submit essays of <u>s</u> d 11 th and 12 th Grade stud	
7.	Criteria for	judging of Es	says: A. Ori	ginality	B. Adheren	ce to theme	C. Literary	composition	
8.	student. Na	me, address	and phone		he parent or	guardian mus		umber, and grade of the uded. Please remember	
9.	Locals and I	Districts may	award prize	s with the va	lue to be det	ermined by m	embers.		
10.	The Local sh	nall award th		orizes: 8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade	
	1 st Place	0 Grade	7 Graue	o Graue	9 Graue	10 Grade	II Glade	12 Graue	
	2 nd Place								
	2 Flace								
11 -	Γhe Departm	ent shall awa	ard the follo	wing prizes:					
		6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade	
	1 st Place	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$200	\$200	
	2 nd Place	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$75	\$75	\$100	\$100	
	3 rd Place	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$30	\$30	\$50	\$50	

12. Judging will be done by lay people, not necessarily professionals, with the exception of one being a professional Judge, may include AMVETS or members of one of their subsidiary organizations.

- 13. District or Local Posts/Auxiliaries shall submit their 1st place winners (one from each grade level) to the Department Chairperson on the official Department Entry form. If a local entry wins on the District level, the local may submit their 2nd place entry.
- 14. The Department shall notify the sponsoring AMVET/Ladies Auxiliary Post and District of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.
- 15. The original 2nd and 3rd place entries shall be returned at the close of the Department Convention. Copies of 1st place Department winners are given to the students so that their original entry can be submitted to National for judging at that level.

Revised 1 September 2023

AMVETS Department Americanism Flag Coloring Contest

Submit Department Entries by 4/1/2024 to:

Karen Harmon Dept of MI, Ladies Auxiliary Americanism Officer 17400 Pratt Road Armada, MI 48005

Co-sponsored by AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary & Sons of AMVETS

Entry Form Please print legibly or type Completed Entry Form with Colored Flags should be returned to your local AMVETS Post or State Dept. **Student Information:** Department Americanism Flag Coloring Contest in the _____ grade category. Birth Date ____/___ Address: ______Email: _____ City, State, Zip: Name of Parent/Guardian ______Email:____ Telephone #: (___)___-Name of School School Address: ______Email:_____ City, State, Zip: _____ Telephone #: (______-Teacher's Name This section must be completed and signed by the Local or District Americanism Officer. Flag coloring entries must be submitted to the designated Department official. Only 1st place entries can be submitted to Department, unless a Local entry won 1st place on District, then the Local's 2nd place winner can be submitted. AMVETS/Ladies Auxiliary – Local/District: ______ Date:_____ Date:_____ Address: __________ City, State, Zip _____ Telephone #: (______-___-E-Mail Address: Name of Chairman (Please Print) Signature of AMVETS/Auxiliary **Local/District Americanism Chairman**

AMVETS Department Americanism Flag Coloring Contest Rules

Who can participate?

All students in kindergarten and 1st grade who attend public, private, parochial schools, are home schooled or are members of a youth group or faith-based organization are eligible to enter.

Theme:

Color the American Flag Template

Contest rules:

- Entries must be colored using markers or crayons.
- Entries must be on the template (or copy) provided
- O Local entries must be presented to an AMVETS or AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary representative by _____
 - O All Department entries must be postmarked by April 1. Local and District deadlines may vary.
- O All National entries must be postmarked by July 1.

Criteria for judging of entries:

* Use of template, or copy, provided

*Neatness

* Answers to questions

Local Awards:

Kindergarten: 1st _____ 2nd _____

1st Grade: 1st _____ 2nd _____

Department Awards – Money Orders

Kindergarten: 1st - \$50 2nd - \$25 3rd - \$15

 1^{st} Grade: 1^{st} - \$50 2^{nd} - \$25 3^{rd} - \$15



National Awards – VISA Gift Cards

First Place Winners will receive a plaque and gift card.

Second Place Winners will receive a certificate and gift card.

What did the thirteen stripes represent?

How many stars are on the flag?

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www.ColoringCastle.com

Revised 1 September 2023

AMVETS Department Americanism Poster Contest

Submit Department Entries by 4/1/2024 to:

Karen Harmon Dept of MI, Ladies Auxiliary Americanism Officer 17400 Pratt Road Armada, Mi. 48005

Co-sponsored by AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary & Sons of AMVETS

Entry Form

Please print legibly or type

	d be returned to your local AMVETS Post or Department.
Student	Information:
Department Americanism Poster Contest in	the grade category.
Name:	Birth Date/
Address:	Email:
City, State, Zip:	
Name of Parent/Guardian	Email:
Telephone #: ()	
Name of School/Organization	
School Address:	Email:
City, State, Zip:	
Telephone #: ()	
Teacher's Name	
<u> </u>	Local or District Americanism Officer. Poster entries must I. Only 1 st place entries can be submitted to Department, the Local's 2 nd place winner can be submitted.
AMVETS/Ladies Auxiliary – Local/District	Date:
Address:	
	Mail Address
Name of Chairman (Please Print)	Signature of AMVETS/Auxiliary Local/District Americanism Chairman

AMVETS Department Americanism Poster Contest Rules

Who can participate?

All students in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grades who attend public, private, parochial schools, are home schooled or are members of a youth group or faith-based organization are eligible to enter.

Annual Theme:

2023-2024 - "Why is it Important to Vote?"

Contest rules:

- All students must address the theme.
- All entries must be free-hand drawings, using pens, pencils, crayons, paint or any combination of these materials. A straight edge may be used as an aid to draw a straight line.
- Gluing pictures or other materials to the surface of the drawing is not permitted.
- O The student's description of the poster must be written on the back of the poster in 50 words or less. Descriptions that are firmly attached to the back of the poster will also be accepted.
- O Entries **must be 9" x 12"** using construction paper or poster board.
- Local entries must be presented to an AMVETS or AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary representative by
- O All **Department entries** must be postmarked **by April 1. Local and District** deadlines **may** vary.
- All National entries must be postmarked by July 1.

Criteria for judging of Posters:

 * Neatness

Local Awards:

Department Awards – Money Orders

2 nd Grade:	1 st	2 nd	2 nd Grade:	1 st - \$50	2 nd - \$25	3 rd - \$15
3 rd Grade:	1 st	2 nd	3 rd Grade:	1 st - \$50	2 nd - \$25	3 rd - \$15
4 th Grade:	1 st	2 nd	4 th Grade:	1 st - \$75	2 nd - \$50	3 rd - \$25
5 th Grade:	1 st	2 nd	5 th Grade:	1 st - \$75	2 nd - \$50	3 rd - \$25

National Awards – VISA Gift Cards

First Place Winners will receive a plaque and gift card.

Second Place Winners will receive a certificate and gift card.



AMVETS Department Americanism Essay Contest

Submit Department Entries by 4/1/2024 to:

Karen Harmon
Dept of MI, Ladies Auxiliary Americanism Officer
17400 Pratt Road
Armada. Mi. 48005

Co-sponsored by AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary & Sons of AMVETS

Entry Form

Please print legibly or type
Completed Entry Form and essay should be returned to your local AMVETS Post or
State Department.

Student Information: Department Americanism Essay Contest in the _____ grade category. (For essays please use the Review, Word Count feature in Microsoft Word if it is available to you: total words) Birth Date ___/___ Address: ______Email: _____ City, State, Zip: ______ Telephone #:_____ Name of Parent/Guardian _______Email:_____Email:_____ Telephone #: () -School Address: Email: City, State, Zip: _____ Telephone #: (_______-Teacher's Name ______ This section must be completed and signed by the Local or District Americanism Officer. Essay entries must be submitted to the designated Department official. Only 1st place Department entries can be submitted to the Department, unless a Local entry won 1st place on the District, then the Local's 2nd place winner can be submitted. AMVETS/Ladies Auxiliary – Local/District: Date: City, State, Zip _____ Telephone #: (__________ E-Mail Address: ______ Name of Chairman (Please Print) Signature of AMVETS/Auxiliary **Local/District Americanism Chairman**

AMVETS Department Americanism Essay Contest Rules

Who can participate?

All students in the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10, 11th or 12th grades that attend public, private, parochial schools, are home schooled or are members of a youth group or faith-based organization are eligible to enter.

Annual Theme:

2023-2024- "Why is it Important to Vote?"

Contest rules:

- O All students must address the theme.
- All essays may be written in ink, typed or produced on a computer.
- 6th Grade students should submit essays of 200 words or less.
- 7th and 8th Grade students should submit essays of 300 words or less.
- **O** 9th and 10th Grade students should submit essays of 400 words or less.
- O 11th and 12th Grade students should submit essays of 500 words or less.
- Local entries must be presented to an AMVETS or AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary representative by
- O All Department entries must be postmarked by April 1. Local and District deadlines may vary.
- O All National entries must be postmarked by July 1.

Criteria for judging of essays:

* Originality

* Adherence to theme

* Literary composition

Local Awards:

6 th Grade:	1 st	_ 2 nd
7 th Grade:	1 st	_ 2 nd
8 th Grade:	1 st	_ 2 nd
9 th Grade:	1 st	_ 2 nd
10 th Grade:	1 st	_ 2 nd
11 th Grade:	1 st	2 nd
12 th Grade:	1 st -	_ 2 nd



Department Awards – Money Orders

	•	
6 th Grade: 1 st - \$100	2 nd - \$50	3 rd - \$25
7 th Grade: 1 st - \$100	2 nd - \$50	3 rd - \$25
8 th Grade: 1 st - \$100	2 nd - \$50	3 rd - \$25
9 th Grade: 1 st - \$150	2 nd - \$75	3 rd - \$30
10 th Grade:1 st - \$150	2 nd - \$75	3 rd - \$30
11 th Grade:1 st - \$200	2 nd - \$100	3 rd - \$50
12th Grade: 1st - \$200	2 nd - \$100	3 rd - \$50

National Awards – VISA Gift Cards

First Place Winners will receive a plaque and gift card.

Second Place Winners will receive a certificate and gift card.

All 9th Grade Department 1st place winners receive an all-expense paid trip (from National) to the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania for a long weekend of youth oriented activities. Dynamic speakers and sightseeing are highlights of a trip that is sure to be long remembered. (https://www.freedomfoundation.com/ for more information)