



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

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VFW Announces Kick-Off of Annual \$30,000 Scholarship Competition

Buchanan, GA. Aug.10th, 2018 – Commander Barry Winters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Post Kermit Chamber, Post 7402 announced the kick-off of this year's VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition. Local high school students have the opportunity to compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C.

Students must write and record a three-to-five minute essay on the selected theme using an audio CD or flash drive and present their recording, typed essay and completed entry form to their local VFW Post by October 31. The 2018-19 theme selected is "Why My Vote Matters." Students begin by competing at the local Post level, then Post winners compete at the District level with the winner advancing to the state competition.

All state first-place winners receive a four day trip to Washington, D.C., and the chance to compete for their share of more than \$150,000 in scholarships. The first-place winner receives a \$30,000 college scholarship.

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) started the Voice of Democracy Scholarship program in 1947. The VFW became a national sponsor in the late 1950s and assumed sole responsibility for the program in 1961. The competition was created to provide students grades 9-12 the opportunity to express themselves in regard to democratic ideas and principles. Around 40,000 students participate in the competition each year and VFW awards more than \$2.1 million in educational scholarships every year.

Interested students and teachers should contact the Voice of Democracy Chairman Sr. Vice Commander James Watson at VFW Post 7402 by phone at 404-938-3523 or email the Post at kermitchambers7402@gmail.com for more information.

FOR DETAILS VISIT: www.vfw.org/VOD.

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ABOUT THE VFW: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and oldest major war veterans' organization. Founded in 1899 and chartered by Congress in 1936, the VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, Guard and Reserve forces. With nearly 1.7 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in nearly 6,400 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans' service organization is proud to proclaim "*NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS*" than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans' service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs. For more information or to join, visit our website at www.vfw.org.

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