

e-news 6 December 2025  
**SCHOLARSHIPS 2025-2026**  
**DEPT CHAIRMAN MARGARET GREENFIELD**  
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Hello Members!!

We just finished up our District judging. Promoted up to Districts was a total of Patriot's Pen 83 and Voice of Democracy 58. Patriots Pen promotions: District 1 -11, District 4 - 15, District 6 - 6, District 7 - 36, and District 10 - 15. Voice of Democracy promotions: District 1 - 7, District 4 - 10, District 6 - 5, District 7 - 28, and District 10 - 8. Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy each District had one promoted up to the state level. We ended up with 1080 applicants on Scholars app. I know there were a lot more applicants than this. Some did it in the classrooms and the teachers promoted from there. I also know there were paper applications handed in to Post/Auxiliary levels. I believe everyone did an amazing job. Thank you to all of those that applied. Congratulations to all our winners from the local Post/Auxiliary and District Post/Auxiliary levels. Thank you to all our judges. You have done a fantastic job. It is not easy to judge. We have so many great essays. The students work very hard on these. We are now judging for our state rounds. The winners will be announced at our Legislative Conference 26 January 2026.

Our winners for Patriot's Pen:

District 1 - Leah Walz - Post/Auxiliary 3164 Canton  
District 4 - Josephine Abbes - Post/Auxiliary 2118 Brookings  
District 6 - Ciera Stevens - Post/Auxiliary 1776 Huron  
District 7 - Audrey Mudder - Post/Auxiliary 2966 Scotland  
District 10 - Tomee Veal - Post/Auxiliary 2969 Lemmon

Our winners for Voice of Democracy:

District 1 - Hayden Schilling - Post/Auxiliary 2975 Beresford  
District 4 - Jersey Johnson - Post/Auxiliary 4690 Webster  
District 6 - Amelia Lott - Post Auxiliary 2038 Pierre  
District 7 - Makayla Strong - Post/Auxiliary 2750 Mitchell  
District 10 - Dagen Mutchler - Post/Auxiliary 5860 Spearfish

Our Teacher of the Year 15 applications were received. Thank you to all of those that nominated a teacher this year.

Our winners for Teacher of the Year:

Elementary - Judy Scott - Post/Auxiliary 3298 Plankinton  
Middle School - Paige Wright - Post/Auxiliary 628 Sioux Falls  
High School - Charlotte Speidel - Post/Auxiliary 2750 Mitchell

**Voice of Democracy Scholarship (essay and oral presentation)**

National Deadline: December 15, 2025

**Patriot's Pen Essay Scholarship**

National Deadline: December 15, 2025

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS FOR PATRIOT'S PEN, VOICE OF DEMOCRACY, AND  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR!!**