



South Dakota Department VFW Auxiliary

Youth Activities

Bulletin May 2025

National Theme: *From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans*

Department Theme: *United in Service for Veterans*

We are closing out another program year. Thank you for allowing me to serve as the Youth Activities Chairman for 2025-26.

Here are our closing statistics:

- All 35 South Dakota Auxiliaries reported in this program.
- A total of 137 youth groups were worked with during the program year.
- Total number of youth Auxiliaries worked with through the program year was 6,520.
- Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations awarded – 69.
- 13 Auxiliaries participated in Patriotism through Literacy donating 313 books.

Illustrating America participation:

- Only 15 Auxiliaries promoted the Illustrating America Art Contest. (I know it is difficult to get programs into our schools, but persistence helps.)
- There were a total of 100 entries submitted in the three age groups. Only 3 Auxiliaries hosted awards ceremonies for their participants.
- A total of 11 art entries were forwarded to Department level.
- Total dollar amount of awards presented by Auxiliaries, Districts and Department is \$690.00.

A few Observations for MAY are:

ALS Awareness Month

National Military Appreciation Month

National Mental Health Month

National Wild Fire Awareness Month

Young Achievers of Tomorrow Month

May 3 – Kentucky Derby, National Fitness Day, National Two Different Colored Shoes Day

May 4 – National Kids Fitness Day, National Weather Observers Day, World Laughter Day

May 5 – Cinco de Mayo, National Silence the Shame Day, Sleep Apnea Awareness Day

May 6 – Childhood Depression Awareness Day, Teacher Appreciation Day

May 7 – National School Nurse Day, Bladder Cancer Awareness Day, Bike & Roll to School Day

May 10 – Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day

May 11 – Mother's Day

May 14 – National Dance Like a Chicken Day

AND SO MANY MORE. Enjoy the month of May!

Department Chairman:

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