



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Announces the 2017-18 Voice of Democracy National Scholarship Winners

First-place winner Robyn Anzulis, from Woodbine, Md., represented the VFW Department of Maryland, and was awarded the \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship.

Second-place winner Philip Dunagan, from Mosier, Ore., represented the VFW Department of Oregon, and was awarded the \$16,000 Charles Kuralt Memorial Scholarship.

Third-place winner Hannah Brown, from Menomonie, Wis., represented the VFW Department of Wisconsin, and was awarded the \$10,000 VFW Scholarship.

Fourth-place winner Justin Grosvenor, from Kingsley, Pa., represented the VFW Department of Pennsylvania, and was awarded the \$7,000 LeRoy Moorhead Memorial Scholarship.

Fifth-place winner Caitlyn Olson, from Greeley, Colo., represented the VFW Department of Colorado, and was awarded the \$5,500 Department of Minnesota William F. Halsey Memorial and Stanley and Carla Martinez Scholarships.

Sixth-place winner Rachel Penner, from Tijeras, N.M., represented the VFW Department of New Mexico, and was awarded the \$5,000 Floyd County VFW Post 3281, New Albany Indiana Scholarship.

Seventh-place winner Logan Ledman, from Northfield, Minn., represented the VFW Department of Minnesota, and was awarded the \$5,000 Rehoboth Beach Post 7447 and Auxiliary Dept. of Delaware Scholarship.

Eighth-place winner William Merrill, from Montgomery, Ala., represented the VFW Department of Alabama, and was awarded the \$3,500 Department of New York and Auxiliary, Rev. Albert G. Salmon Memorial Scholarship.

Ninth-place winner Marissa Berardo, from Bradford, R.I., represented the VFW Department of Rhode Island, and was awarded the \$3,500 Department of New Jersey Howard E. Vander Clute and Daniel Sean Wallace Memorial Scholarships.

Tenth-place winner Charles Hermesmann, from Columbus, N.J., represented the VFW Department of New Jersey, and was awarded the \$3,000 Department of Indiana and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Annabel Peltzer, from Laveen, Ariz., represented the VFW Department of Arizona, and was awarded the \$3,000 Joseph and Irene Hansen Memorial Scholarship.

Charity Hernandez, from Las Vegas, Nev., represented the VFW Department of Nevada, and was awarded the \$2,500 Troy and Sandy Rothbart Memorial Scholarship.

James Witt, from Ricardo, Texas, represented the VFW Department of Texas, and was awarded the \$2,000 Jesse A. Lewis Memorial Scholarship.

Jacob Francis, from Boise, Idaho, represented the VFW Department of Idaho, and was awarded the \$2,000 Silver Spring Memorial Post 2562 Scholarship.

Emily Moore, from Blacksburg, Va., represented the VFW Department of Virginia, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Arizona and Auxiliary Harry A. Kosht Memorial Scholarship.

Hannah Doyle, from West Richland, Wash., represented the VFW Department of Washington, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of California and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Keeley Higley, from Walkerton, Ind., represented the VFW Department of Indiana, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Illinois VFW – Ray Soden/George Cramer Scholarship.

Weston Church, from Fairview, Okla., represented the VFW Department of Oklahoma, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Wisconsin Wally Hogan/Tom Tradewell Commanders-in-Chief Scholarship.

Austin Amestoy, from Laurel, Mont., represented the VFW Department of Montana, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Kentucky and Auxiliary Brian Duffy and Marion Watson Scholarship.

Brandon Davis, from Conway, S.C., represented the VFW Department of South Carolina, and was awarded the \$2,000 Francis Tallman Memorial and Robert A. Stock Memorial Scholarships.

Morgan Wilcox, from Shawnee, Kan., represented the VFW Department of Kansas, and was awarded the \$2,000 Walter and Doris Marshall Memorial and Southern Conference Scholarships.

Owen Martin, from Caribou, Maine, represented the VFW Department of Maine, and was awarded the \$2,000 Mr. and Mrs. James H. Black and Jane Young Memorial Scholarships.

Gianna Jones, from Warren, Ohio, represented the VFW Department of Ohio, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Alabama and Department of Georgia James H. “Sloppy” Floyd Memorial Scholarships.

Natasha Martinez Alvarado, from San Francisco, Calif., represented the VFW Department of California, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Georgia R.D. “Bulldog” Smith, Jr. and Department of Ohio Chester J. Koch Memorial Scholarships.

Krista Wamhoff, from Papillion, Neb., represented the VFW Department of Nebraska, and was awarded the \$2,000 Department of Connecticut and Auxiliary and Stephen and Elsie Riordan Memorial Scholarships.

Katrina Schell, from Wilmington, Mass., represented the VFW Department of Massachusetts, and was awarded the \$2,000 Larry W. Rivers and Department of Illinois Scott Post 4183 Scholarships.

Mattilyn Winburn, from Bainbridge, Ga., represented the VFW Department of Georgia, and was awarded the \$2,000 All American Post 284 and Bernard J. Michels, Post 9610 and Auxiliary Scholarships.

Olivia Heinecke, from Sisseton, S.D., represented the VFW Department of South Dakota, and was awarded the \$2,000 Juanita Crowe-Durbino, Department of Tennessee and Ervin and Lorraine Rothenbuhler Scholarships.

Caitlin Omev, from Discovery Bay, Hong Kong, represented the VFW Department of Pacific Areas, and was awarded the \$2,000 Fridley VFW Post 363 and Auxiliary and Department of Michigan and Auxiliary Scholarships.

Lydia Eason, from El Dorado Springs, Mo., represented the VFW Department of Missouri, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of New Hampshire Scholarship.

Maria Sebekow, from Northwood, N.D., represented the VFW Department of North Dakota, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of Illinois and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Timothy Venable, from Milford, Del., represented the VFW Department of Delaware, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of Missouri and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Seth Polk, from Scott Depot, W.Va., represented the VFW Department of West Virginia, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of New Mexico and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Thomas Pearson, from Libertyville, Ill., represented the VFW Department of Illinois, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of Massachusetts Edward A. Nardi Scholarship.

Elliot Paul, from Greenville, N.C., represented the VFW Department of North Carolina, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of Colorado and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Kristen Bednarczyk, from Fairport, N.Y., represented the VFW Department of New York, and was awarded the \$1,500 Department of Arkansas and Auxiliary Les Thone Memorial Scholarship.

Sean Belhumeur, from Alexandria, Ky., represented the VFW Department of Kentucky, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Wyoming and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Kaitlyn Kiekintveld, from Brooksville, Fla., represented the VFW Department of Florida, and was awarded the \$1,000 Roy Chandler VFW Post 762 and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Sean Humphrey, from Glastonbury, Conn., represented the VFW Department of Connecticut, and was awarded the \$1,000 Arthur W. Jones VFW Post 7564 and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Emma Russell, from Mount Pleasant, Mich., represented the VFW Department of Michigan, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Pennsylvania Joseph L. Vicites Memorial Scholarship.

Mary Golden, from Columbia, Tenn., represented the VFW Department of Tennessee, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Maine Scholarship "to Remember the U.S.S. Maine."

Luke Jones, from Wailuku, Hawaii, represented the VFW Department of Hawaii, and was awarded the \$1,000 Gilbert N. Nelson - Post 1326 and their Auxiliary - Bismarck, North Dakota Scholarship.

Sarah Prather, from Oxford, Miss., represented the VFW Department of Mississippi, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Kansas and Auxiliary Robert R. Whipple Memorial Scholarship.

Emily Daine, from Littleton, N.H., represented the VFW Department of New Hampshire, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Nevada and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Erich Loewer, from Crowley, La., represented the VFW Department of Louisiana, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Florida John M. "Jack" Carney Scholarship.

Christina Chatfield, from Healy, Alaska, represented the VFW Department of Alaska, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Hawaii and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Abigail Clawson, from Mt. Pleasant, Utah, represented the VFW Department of Utah, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Idaho and Auxiliary Scholarship.

Lauren Haley, from North Little Rock, Ark., represented the VFW Department of Arkansas, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Mississippi VFW and Auxiliary Bernard McClelland Memorial Scholarship.

Sean Hogan, from Ramstein, Germany, represented the VFW Department of Europe, and was awarded the \$1,000 Ray Sisk Memorial Scholarship.

Sean Liddiard, from Waukon, Iowa, represented the VFW Department of Iowa, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Tennessee Cooper T. Holt - John Furgess Scholarship.

Victor Reynoso, from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, represented Puerto Rico, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Mississippi Toxie K. Stapleton Post 6473 Luther J. Cox Memorial Scholarship.

Jacob Brogdon, from Gillette, Wyo., represented the VFW Department of Wyoming, and was awarded the \$1,000 Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Eubank and 2010-2011 Department Commanders Scholarship.

Sofia Gulick, from Springfield, Vt., represented the VFW Department of Vermont, and was awarded the \$1,000 Mr. and Mrs. John Biedrzycki and the 2015 Homecoming Committee Scholarship.