

STATE of MICHIGAN VFW
2026-2027 YOUTH ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

The VFW established a youth activities program to teach our nation's youth the skills to become responsible adults through serving our country, communities, veterans and service members. We engage youth in positive volunteer experiences and believe every young person can find a place to serve that will improve their lives, as well as the lives they touch.

These activities could partner VFW post members with multiple educational organizations, like scouts, after school clubs, sports team, faith-based youth groups, youth community service groups, and more. This year's program is as follows.

A sampling of possible activities within each category is listed below:

Category 1: Sports/Athletics - Track, basketball, softball, baseball, bowling, soccer, swimming, Special Olympics, hockey and any sport/athletic sponsorship.

Category 2: Scouting/Organization – Scouts BSA, Explorers, Sea Scouts, Ventures, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Daisy, Boys and Girl Clubs of America, Naval Sea Cadets, Young Marines, Civil Air Patrol, JROTC, Future Farmers of America, 4-H clubs and any other youth organization sponsorship.

Category 3: Contests/Special Events - Parades, talent shows, picnics, dances, fishing derbies, walk-a-thon, rifle/pistol competitions, bike-a-thons, VOD and Patriot Pen, Honor Guard at school sporting events

Category 4: Educational /Instruction - Ceramics, stamp collecting, model building, leather craft, missing children (child ID) sponsor a First Aid/CPR class.

Category 5: Recognition/ROTC/JROTC/Civil Air Patrol (CAP)/Sea Cadet - Achievement award, (medal and citation), Eagle Scout Award Certificate, Gold Award, Honor Certificates for students or other Trophy/Plaque Presentation. Honor Certificates for young people doing heroic deeds such as saving a life.

Category 6: Projects/Others - Build or repair, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, playgrounds, donate equipment, and National Home, Camp Trotter contributions. Use your imagination in this category.

Program Reporting:

Support the youth in your community and report your activities as soon as a project is completed or a contribution is made. Our goal is to have all Posts reported by the Fall Conference.

All projects must be reported on the proper Department Online Reporting Form.
DO NOT SEND WRITTEN REPORTS TO THE DIRECTOR.

- Be sure you read your programs and due dates for each program.
- When reporting your Youth Activities remembers to do the following:
- Report all activities by the 25th of the following month.
- Keep a copy of all your reports.
- Check your Department Activities Report to ensure your report was received.

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Judging will be based on the July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 Department Activity report.

Awards will be based on the following point system:

1. Three (3) Points for each month a youth project is credited on the Department Activity Report
2. Ten (10) Points for sponsoring or co-sponsoring a Voice of Democracy entry. Taken from the All-American dashboard.
3. Ten (10) Points for sponsoring or co-sponsoring a Patriot's Pen entry. Taken from the All-American dashboard
4. Ten (10) Points for sponsoring each Scout of the year entry.
5. Ten (10) Points for sponsoring each Cadet of the year entry.
6. Ten (10) Points for volunteering time or money to the National Home for Children.
7. Ten (10) Points for donating \$370 to the Camp Trotter Camper Scholarship Fund.
8. Ten (10) Points for donating money to Camp Trotter.
9. Ten (10) Points for volunteering time to Camp Trotter.
9. Ten (10) Points for recognizing a Youth Hero. (Must contact Director)

A Citation will be presented to the top three Posts in each division at the first District meeting following State Convention. The divisions are based on June 30, 2026 membership as follows:

Division I **Under 50 members**
Division II **51 – 90 members**
Division III **91 - 139 members**
Division IV **140 members & OVER**

A Citation will be presented to the District with the highest average per Post point total at the first District meeting following State Convention.

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