



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Announces the 2021-22 Patriot's Pen
National Award Winners**

First-place winner Syed Ali, from Lafayette, LA, represented the VFW Department of Louisiana, and was awarded the \$5,000 North End Post 144, Paul A. Spera Past Commander-in-Chief Award.

Second-place winner Josephine Althoff, from Hillsboro, MO, represented the VFW Department of Missouri, and was awarded the \$4,000 VFW Award.

Third-place winner Eva Kolomyski, from Woodbury, MN, represented the VFW Department of Minnesota, and was awarded the \$3,500 VFW Award.

Fourth-place winner Annalise May, from Darlington, MD, represented the VFW Department of Maryland, and was awarded the \$2,750 Alaine Benson Memorial Award.

Fifth-place winner Samantha Sandivik, from Perrysburg, OH, represented the VFW Department of Ohio, and was awarded the \$2,500 Rehoboth Beach Post 7447 and Auxiliary (Dept. of Delaware) Award.

Sixth-place winner Anna Bardeau, from Broomfield, CO, represented the VFW Department of Colorado, and was awarded the \$2,000 Clyde A. Lewis Department of New York and Auxiliary Award.

Seventh-place winner Millie Boock-Bittner, from West Fargo, ND, represented the VFW Department of North Dakota, and was awarded the \$1,750 Dept. of New Hampshire George J. Maxfield Post 1772 and Auxiliary John A. Knapper Memorial Award.

Eighth-place winner Aubree Bronkema, from Corunna, MI, represented the VFW Department of Michigan, and was awarded the \$1,500 John F. Gwizdak Award.

Ninth-place winner Evie Gray, from Greenfield, IN, represented the VFW Department of Indiana, and was awarded the \$1,500 VFW and James R. and Pat Mueller Award.

Tenth-place winner Matthew Gradwell, from Tucson, AZ, represented the VFW Department of Arizona, and was awarded the \$1,500 VFW Award.

Ava Bedard, from Champlain, NY, represented the VFW Department of New York, and was awarded the \$1,250 VFW Award.

Regina Stoesser, from Sioux Falls, SD, represented the VFW Department of South Dakota, and was awarded the \$1,250 Grace Minnix Memorial Award.

Isabella Kocak, from Rockport, ME, represented the VFW Department of Maine, and was awarded the \$1,000 Golden Valley VFW Post 7051 (Golden Valley, MN) Award.

Cristina Robinson, from Fallon, NV, represented the VFW Department of Nevada, and was awarded the \$1,000 Louis W. Oppenheim VFW Post 1019 Award.

Nissi Wadieh, from Bear, DE, represented the VFW Department of Delaware, and was awarded the \$1,000 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Colorado Award.

Karlie Barnes, from Whitney, TX, represented the VFW Department of Texas, and was awarded the \$1,000 John V. Daniels Jr. Post 2813 and Auxiliary (Department of New York) Award and John E. "Jack" Bales Post 10581 (Department of Colorado) Award (combined).

Lizzie Mills, from Yakima, WA, represented the VFW Department of Washington, and was awarded the \$1,000 Silver Spring Memorial Post 2562 (Department of Maryland) Award and Department of Utah Award (combined).

Ryker Shankles, from Fort Payne, AL, represented the VFW Department of Alabama, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Michigan Award and Warren A. Tressler Memorial (Department of Minnesota) Award (combined).

Roy Jones, from Pendleton, OR, represented the VFW Department of Oregon, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Nevada Award & Chaplain Lyman Rollins Post 2005, Marblehead, Massachusetts Award (combined).

Jayma Schnoor, from Wichita, KS, represented the VFW Department of Kansas, and was awarded the \$1,000 Charlie H. Adamson, Jr. Memorial Award and Joseph A. Scerra Memorial (Department of Massachusetts) Award (combined).

Ella McFillin, from Hatfield, PA, represented the VFW Department of Pennsylvania, and was awarded the \$1,000 James L. Keeley Award and Department of Ohio Award (combined).

Alli Smith, from Winchester, TN, represented the VFW Department of Tennessee, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of South Dakota VFW and Auxiliary Award & Department of Idaho and Auxiliary Award (combined).

Samantha Wiebelhaus, from Mukwonago, WI, represented the VFW Department of Wisconsin, and was awarded the \$1,000 Department of Georgia and Auxiliary Award.

Blythe Dudley, from Bernardsville, NJ, represented the VFW Department of New Jersey, and was awarded the \$750 Department of Kansas VFW and Auxiliary Award and Department of Iowa Award (combined).

Parker Tade, from Oak Forest, IL, represented the VFW Department of Illinois, and was awarded the \$750 VFW Department of Washington and Auxiliary Eric G. Sandstrom Memorial Award.

Jackson Mann, from Alexandria, KY, represented the VFW Department of Kentucky, and was awarded the \$500 Glenn D. Raney Memorial Award (LA) Award.

Benjamin Dirks, from Kaiserslautern, Germany, represented the VFW Department of Europe, and was awarded the \$500 Mary Margaret Romano Memorial (Department of Connecticut) Award.

Anna Pope, from Concord, NH, represented the VFW Department of New Hampshire, and was awarded the \$500 VFW Southern Conference Award.

Harrison Fallon, from East Greenwich, RI, represented the VFW Department of Rhode Island, and was awarded the \$500 Edward S. Banas, Sr. Award.

Quincey Poe, from Casper, WY, represented the VFW Department of Wyoming, and was awarded the \$500 Deering Memorial Post 6859, Portland, Maine Award.

James Bowen, from Fort Mill, SC, represented the VFW Department of South Carolina, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Tennessee John Furgess Award.

Cade Nail, from Fulton, MS, represented the VFW Department of Mississippi, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Missouri VFW and Auxiliary Award.

Noah Avery, from Staunton, VA, represented the VFW Department of Virginia, and was awarded the \$500 The Robin V. Fell Memorial Award.

Emma Cotnoir, from Dracut, MA, represented the VFW Department of Massachusetts, and was awarded the \$500 Deering Memorial Post 6859, Auxiliary Portland Maine Award.

Sawyer Stelzig, from Chiang Mai, Thailand, represented VFW Department of Pacific Areas, and was awarded the \$500 Department of South Carolina and Auxiliary Award.

Reagan Engelauf, from Englewood, FL, represented the VFW Department of Florida, and was awarded the \$500 Sanford-Springvale Memorial VFW Post 9935 Award.

Rayna Cabuslay, from Waipahu, HI, represented the VFW Department of Hawaii, and was awarded the \$500 Department of California Award.

Brindle Beckner, from Potlatch, ID, represented the VFW Department of Idaho, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Arkansas, "Dewayne Fletcher Memorial" Award.

Brooke Johnson, from Kearney, NE, represented the VFW Department of Nebraska, and was awarded the \$500 Frederick H. Smalley Department of New Mexico Award.

Luke Baker, from Dallas, GA, represented the VFW Department of Georgia, and was awarded the \$500 VFW Department of Pacific Areas Award.

Wali Omer, from Kinston, NC, represented the VFW Department of North Carolina, and was awarded the \$500 VFW Department of New Jersey Award.

Nataniah Lewis, from Midway, WV, represented the VFW Department of West Virginia, and was awarded the \$500 Veterans of Foreign Wars of Ohio Charities Award.

Raley McBroom, from Portales, NM, represented the VFW Department of New Mexico, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Wyoming and Auxiliary Award.

Connor Machado, from Springville, CA, represented the VFW Department of California, and was awarded the \$500 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Mississippi and Auxiliary Award.

Siona Pramoda, from Guyanabo, Puerto Rico, represented the VFW Department of Unaffiliated, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Connecticut and Auxiliary Award.

Tristan Savant, from Montezuma, IA, represented the VFW Department of Iowa, and was awarded the \$500 Commander-and-Chief John Biedrzewski and 2015-2016 Department Commanders Award.

Akon Atem, from West Jordan, UT, represented the VFW Department of Utah, and was awarded the \$500 National President Francisca Guilford and 2015-2016 Auxiliaries Award.

Gabrielle Elmore-Brown, from Mt. Vernon, VT, represented the VFW Department of Vermont, and was awarded the \$500 Department of New Mexico and Auxiliary Award.

Ezekiel Leonard, from Greenbrier, AR, represented the VFW Department of Arkansas, and was awarded the \$500 VFW Department of Nevada Award.

Natalie Hinsberger, from Anchor Point, AK, represented the VFW Department of Alaska, and was awarded the \$500 Department of Pennsylvania 2015-16 "LDRSHIP" Award.

Jaesun Yirsa, from Big Sandy, MT, represented the VFW Department of Montana, and was awarded the \$500 Peter J. Mascetti Jr. & Department of Europe Award.

Andrea Robles, from Madill, OK, represented the VFW Department of Oklahoma, and was awarded the \$500 VFW and Auxiliary members of Southern Charles County Memorial Post 10081, Dept. of Maryland Award.

Nicola Gugliotti, from Watertown, CT, represented the VFW Department of Connecticut, and was awarded the \$500 Gilbert N. Nelson Post 1326 and their Auxiliary, Bismarck, ND Award.