

2016-2017 Junior Contests & Awards

Americanism

Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest. This year's theme is:

“How does learning about government and our America help you become a future guardian of the liberties of our country?”

Download the Americanism Essay contest cover sheet under the Americanism category at

www.ALAforVeterans.org

- The contest shall include six classes.

Class Grade Level Word Requirement

I 3 and 4 150-250

II 5 and 6 250-300

III 7 and 8 350-400

IV 9 and 10 450-500

V 11 and 12 450-500

VI Students with special needs.

Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

- Students with special needs are defined as:
 - Those in special education classes
 - A student recommended for special education classes, but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
 - A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials

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Chaplain

Best Book of Prayers and Inspirations:

Class I: District Chaplain's Book of Prayers & Inspirations for her District President

Class II: Unit Chaplain's Book of Prayers & Inspirations for her Unit President

Class III: District Junior Chaplain's Book of Prayers & Inspirations for Junior Department President

Class IV: Unit Junior Chaplain's Book of Prayers & Inspirations for her Unit Junior President

Rules for all classes are the same with exceptions:

1. Use 8-1/2 x 11 paper. Pages should be typed (Junior's – can be handwritten). Leave 1" border on all sides of each page. Use pictures or clipart to decorate.
2. Cover may be folder of your choice, notebook, construction paper or other decorative paper. Cover page must have "Prayers and Inspirations" centered and the American Legion Auxiliary emblem (available through Emblem Sales) at the top of the page.
3. The first page shall include the name and address of the member submitting the entry, the class category, unit name and number, county, district, and to whom the book is dedicated.
4. There is a maximum of 20 pages (40 if using both sides).
5. Judged on neatness, quality, creativity, and content. You may use President Sharon's theme, symbol and songs. Book should have a theme tying all entries together.

Books are due to Department Chaplain Mary Sebben and postmarked by **April 30, 2017**. Books may be picked up at end of Senior or Junior Department Conventions.

2016-2017 Plan of Action

Best Booklet of Prayers and Inspirations or "Thinking of You" booklet. (Used for nursing homes/shut-ins)

Class I: Any Senior Auxiliary Member Member

Class II: Any Junior Auxiliary Member

Rules for both classes

1. Use 8-1/2 x 11 paper, folded in half. Size of booklet will be 8-1/2 x 5-1/2. You may use a 10" plastic photo album. Pages may be typed or neatly handwritten. Use pictures, your own artwork, or stickers.
 2. Cover may be construction paper or other decorative paper folded to correct size. Cover must have "Prayers and Inspirations" or "Thinking of You" centered along with the American Legion Auxiliary emblem at the top of the page.
 3. First page must include the name and address of the member submitting the book, class category, unit name and number, county and district. Maximum of 20 pages.
 4. Judged on neatness, quality, creativity, and content. You may use President Sharon's theme or personally-created theme. These are not judged by District Chaplains. Please submit your entry directly to Department Chaplain Mary Sebben.
- Booklets are due to Department Chaplain Mary Sebben and postmarked by **April 30, 2017**. Booklets may be picked up at end of Senior or Junior Department Conventions.

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Historian

Junior members are invited to become involved in preserving the History of the ALA. The Junior Patch program is available again this year. Juniors are asked to complete 9 activities, three of which are marked with an asterisks (*) and are required. Those requirements are:

1. Interview at least two ALA members for the Members Remember project. Post your video interviews on YouTube.com.
2. Contribute to your unit's ALA Junior History Book
3. Research and do a presentation on the history of your unit. Present it to your Junior unit, or at a unit or post meeting.

Be sure to keep an ongoing history of your Unit's Junior activities and be sure to send them to the Department Junior Historian for the Department Junior President's History book, be sure to send a copy to me so that I can include in President Sharons history also.

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Junior Activities

Junior Public Relations Award- An award presented to the Junior group with the best media coverage of their activities or a project. Narrative must include the award cover sheet located in the program Plan, not to exceed 500 words. Please include specific examples of displays, ALA events, speeches, social media activity, etc. Entries must be sent in to the Department Junior Activities Chairman by April 30, 2017. All entries will be sent to the National Chairman by June 1, 2017.

Unit Award- An award presented to the unit with the most outstanding Junior Activities program. Entry must be typewritten in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words and must include the award cover sheet located in the program Plan. Please include pictures electronically or via postal mail. Entries must be sent in to the department chairman by April 30, 2017. All entries will be sent to the national division chairman by June 1, 2017.

Department Award- An award presented to the department with the most outstanding Junior Activities program. Entry must be typewritten in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words and must include the award cover sheet located in the program Plan. Please include specific examples of how your Juniors worked the ALA mission along with pictures, news articles, etc. Entries must be sent in to the department chairman by April 30, 2017. All entries will be sent to the national division chairman by June 1, 2017.

Junior Member of the Year Award- Each unit can nominate a deserving Junior in recognition of her dedicated service, efforts, and talents. All unit nominees will receive a Department certificate. The selected Iowa Junior member of the year entry will be sent on to National for further competition. Requirements are as follows:

1. Nominee must be a Junior Auxiliary member in the Dept. of Iowa in good standing for the 2016-2017 membership year
2. Only one Junior from each unit may be sent to Department for competition.
3. Outstanding contributions the Junior has made through programs and projects of the ALA
4. The Department Junior President is not eligible for this award
5. Years of membership as a junior member is not a requirement
6. Nominee's name, email address, and complete mailing address must accompany the nomination
7. A typed-written narrative essay with an award cover sheet not to exceed 500 words telling about the nominee's accomplishments during the current administrative year.
8. Please include pictures, clippings, scrapbooks, etc. either electronically or via postal mail
9. Nominations must be signed by the candidate's unit Junior Activities Chairman and sent to the Department Junior Activities Chairman by April 30, 2017.
10. Entries will be judged by the national Junior Activities committee.

Poppy Corsage

Corsages shall be judged on the Unit level with winners proceeding to District Conference. Officers and Guests will use the winning corsages at Department Junior Convention. Use no less than 3 and no more than 7 poppies.

All entries must have the name of the creator, the Unit number, town, age and class number.

11.A. Class I - Tiny Tots through age 8

12.B. Class - Ages 9-12

13.C. Class III - Ages 13-18

First Place winners from each class will be picked up by Department Junior Activity Chairman Mikayla Wicker at the close of District Junior Conference.

Patch Program

Junior members participating in the patch program have the opportunity to learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary by earning patches. There are three levels of patch criteria: Red — Level I: K thru 3rd grade, Gold — Level 2: 4th thru 8th grade, Blue — Level 3: 9th thru 12th grade.

Juniors can earn patches in Americanism, Community Service, Education, Field Service, Leadership, Membership, National Security, Physical Fitness, Poppy, Technology and VA&R. When the required activities for a patch are completed, a senior member must sign the form. Completed forms need to be sent to Doris Jackson, Dept. Junior Activities Chairman at address above by April 30, 2017.

Electronic Patch Program

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members can be active participants of the organization with the Junior Activities Electronic Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she belongs to an active Junior group, Junior Auxiliary members can serve their communities, veterans and learn about patriotism, health, fitness and leadership through this program. When the activities are completed, the Junior may download a patch below and display it on her social media page proudly. Any social media page is acceptable. Some examples may be Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, blogs or private webpages. The location of the patch is also a way to express creativity. Collect earned patches on the wall, in a photo album, or show the newest patch achievement as a profile picture! Two patches are available for all levels. These are the National President's Scholarship Patch and the yearly Membership Patches.

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Poppy

Poppy Poster

Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the unit.

Contest Classes

- Class I: Grades 2 and 3
- Class II: Grades 4 and 5
- Class III: Grades 6 and 7
- Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
- Class V: Grades 10 and 11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs defined as: a. Those in special education classes b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors. c. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

Poppy Poster Requirements

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles “a”, “and,” “an”, “the” are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria: • 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality) • 40% - artistic ability (design and color) • 10% - neatness
7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.
8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians’ grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.
10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label “In Memoriam” from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.
12. When the Holy Cross is used, the Star of David also shall be used.

Poppy Contest Judging and Awards

1. Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.

3. Unit members should follow deadlines and process for the department.
4. All department adjudicated entries must be sent by the department chairman to her national division chairman postmarked by June 1, 2017. (See addresses located at the front of this program Plan for specific division contact information.)
5. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.
6. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted, and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

Miss Poppy

Two Categories: Little Miss Poppy (Ages 6-12) Miss Poppy (Ages 13-18)

1. Participant must be between six and 18 years of age and be a Junior member in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary.
2. Promotional activity of the Poppy story must occur through the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the community.
3. Selection of Miss Poppy is at the discretion of the unit. Poppy 5
4. For National Miss Poppy consideration, participant must submit a Miss Poppy scrapbook (8½” x11”) containing photographs and clippings illustrating how she promoted the American Legion Auxiliary poppy in her department. Only those scrapbooks that contain a self-addressed envelope with postage will be returned. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen, so all entrants must allow for that risk.
5. Criteria for judging Miss Poppy Scrapbook entries: a. Costume (there is no specific dress code or particular dress color for Miss Poppy). b. Promotion of the Poppy Program: What did you share and do? c. Publicity of poppy activities (newspapers, radio/TV, etc.). d. Narrative report on “What I Have Learned Being Miss Poppy.” e. Essay on “Memorial Poppy” not to exceed 100 words. f. The memorial poppy must be visible in all promotion and publicity submitted. g. Neatness and creativity. h. Cover page to include member name, unit name, state, age division and year. i. Judging scale should be 1 through 10 for each area of judging for entire entry.
6. Little Miss Poppy (age 6-12) and Miss Poppy (age 13-18) winners will be invited to appear at the 2017 National Convention in Reno, Nevada, immediately following her selection, and if she so chooses, will travel at her own expense. Winners of the National Miss Poppy contest each will receive a citation plaque.
7. Please follow department guidelines for submitting entries. The department Poppy chairman should submit the name, address, unit and department of the contestant to her national Poppy chairman by June 1, 2017. If the Poppy scrapbook is to be returned, members must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen so all entrants must allow for that risk.

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Service to Veterans

Service to Veterans Volunteer Hours Award: An award will be presented to a junior and a senior member for reporting the greatest number of hours from April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017, as certified by the unit. Entries must include the award cover sheet.

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