

GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.

Americanism is one of the four pillars of THE AMERICAN LEGION. The Americanism Program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship for all ages.

WHAT CAN UNITS DO IN THEIR COMMUNITY??????

Bring awareness to our Flags during parades and fairs – display your Flag with respect.

Pass out literature on Flag etiquette tops, coloring books, small flags and information about your Post and Unit.

Hold a Flag burning ceremony.

Host a get out and vote candidate night.

Check on the business in your community, if an American Flag needs repairs, ask if your Unit can buy them a new one.

Fly the American Flag.

Encourage all Post family members to wear Patriotic clothing like the RED, WHITE AND BLUE for a true American.

WHAT CAN THE MEMBERS DO IN YOUR UNIT MEETINGS??

Say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and learn about its meaning.

Sing the National Anthem and learn its meaning.

(American Flag stands to the right and make sure the top is straight and if an eagle is on top the eagle faces forward).

Talk about the Flag Protection Act.

Promote the observation of Patriotic Holidays.

Start a pocket Flag program.

Look up on google about the Star-Spangled Kids program.

Wear your pins.

Do a 13-fold of the American Flag.

Sing I AM PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN.

SCHOOLS – ARE SO IMPORTANT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Talk about the American Flag with respect, bring one into a classroom, pass out literature like coloring books, rules, small Flags and anything of interest at their age group.

Say the Pledge of Allegiance, explain what it means.

Sing the National Anthem, explain what it means.

Get the Veterans in the schools to tell their stories.

Check on the Schools Flag, replace if needed.

Talk about THE AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST.

Talk about the Oratorical Contest.

Talk about Junior Shooting Stars.

Talk about Scouting, (check with WilWin)

Tell them about The American Legion Baseball and its history remember our favorite pass time song BASEBALL, HOTDOGS, APPLE PIE, AND CHEVROLET.

THE AMERICAN ESSAY CONTEST FOR 2023-2024 is;

“What does Freedom mean to me?”

Check out the website for all awards and citations deadlines.

<https://www.legion-aux.org/>

Department awards for essays each class

1st Place \$75.00

2nd Place \$50.00

3rd Place \$25.00

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST –

Each year the Americanism Legion Auxiliary sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. (See next page)

Essay 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 grade level	

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST entries are due on February 29, 2024

Unit judge entries for each class and send their 1st place entries onto district.

Districts judge the Unit entries and forward their 1st place entries from each class onto the Department Chairperson by the deadline March 30, 2024. The winner from Department will be forwarded to National.

There are certificates and monetary awards from our Department for the 1st. 2nd. And 3rd. place winners in each class. The 1st place from each class will advance and be forwarded onto the ALA division Americanism Chairman. The division 1st place from each class will receive a Citation and a \$50.00 prize and an additional \$50.00 donation in the student's name given to the Children of Warrior's National President's scholarship fund.

Entries must include the AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST cover sheet.

We recommend participants retain a copy of their submission for their own records.

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YEAR END REPORTING – summarizes a compilation of all program work of the Units and Districts.

Due to your Department Chairperson by **APRIL 15th**.

ALL CITATIONS AND AWARDS ARE DUE TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON BY APRIL 15th.

EVA SPAULING CITATION –

Award presented to the Unit having the most outstanding Americanism Program targeted to children and youth. This entry must be typewritten in a narrative form

and not exceed 1,000 words. Describe what/how your Unit did involving children and youth regarding Americanism and Patriotism. Unit entries must be judged by the district. The district should send their 1st place winning entry onto the Department Chairman by the deadline.

MARY RIPLEY CITATION –

Award presented to the Unit having the greatest percentage of Americanism. This entry should describe/list what/how all of your Unit's Americanism and Patriotism efforts and events. How many members and how many cumulative hours. Unit entries must be judged by the district. The district should send their 1st place entries onto the Department Chairman by the deadline.

DONNA BAILEY CITATION -

Award presented to the district chairman for promoting the most outstanding Americanism Program. This entry must be typewritten in a narrative form and not exceed 1,000 words. It may include no more than 5 pictures and 5 news articles. The district chairman must send the winning entry to the Department Chairman to be judged by the deadline.

DOROTHY PEARL –

Award presented to the Unit that reports the most outstanding Americanism Program. This entry must be typewritten in a narrative format and not to exceed 1,000 words. This entry may include no more than 5 pictures and 5 news articles. The winner will be sent on to National for the DOROTHY PEARL CITATION.

Consider what efforts/events your Unit did regarding the Americanism Program. In meetings, in your community, for Patriotic Holidays, on social media with children, youth and the public.

How many hours/dollars spent/donated etc.

What impact did you make?

How did you promote Patriotism?

Did you promote the Americanism Essay Contest? How.

Did your Unit promote the Flag education and/or etiquette.

How did you promote/celebrate Patriotic Holidays?

Did your Unit support the Flag amendment.

Did your Unit support any of the TLA Americanism Programs? How.

Unit entries must be judged by your district. The district should send their 1st place entries onto the Department Chairperson by the deadline.

Our Department 1st place winner will advance to the ALA division Americanism Chairperson for consideration of the DOROTHY PEARL CITATION PLAQUE.