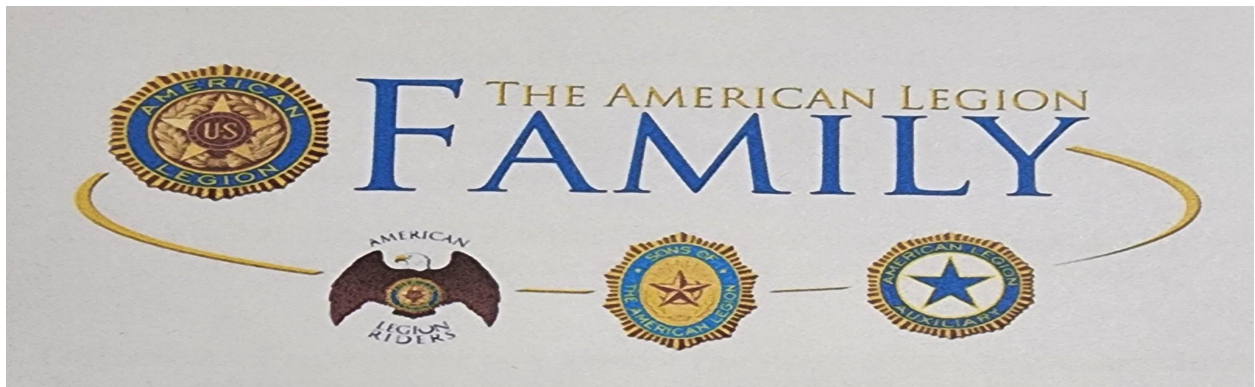


Department of Michigan Junior Activities Guide 2023-2024

Mission Statement: The Junior Activities Committee promotes Volunteerism and principles of the American Legion Auxiliary. This is accomplished by participation in various programs and services that are community-based and involve our Veterans. Junior members are taught the principles of loyalty to God and Country, Justice, Freedom, and Democracy with guidance from the American Legion Family.



Honorary Junior President

Abbie Jones

Special Project

Guardian Angels (medicalservedogs.org)

Objectives:

1. To participate in projects that serve our military, veterans and their families. This includes active duty and retired service members.

- 1.1. Send holiday and thank you cards to both active duty and retired service members, on bases, in your communities, and at your Posts.
- 1.2. Volunteer to assist both active duty and retired veteran families by babysitting, or helping with other everyday items such as raking leaves, mowing lawns, and shoveling snow.
- 1.3. Contact a veteran and encourage them to tell you their story if they are comfortable. Write it down for them.
- 1.4. Attend and help wherever possible, including veteran homes, hospitals, holiday gift shops, and any time your veteran community needs you.

2. To encourage Juniors to assist the Units and Posts with their knowledge of social media and getting the word out.

- 2.1. Assist the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL in creating a website to spread the word about activities and events at your Post.
- 2.2. Assist the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL in creating and maintaining emails as forms of communication.
- 2.3. Via Facebook and other social media platforms (with permission from your guardians), spread the word about what you are involved in as a Junior Auxiliary member.

3. To promote and spread the word about the current Honorary Junior President's Special Project for the year.

- 3.1. Have information such as handouts and talking points regarding the current special project readily available at all events where you are in attendance.
- 3.2. Create and maintain a good working relationship with a point of contact within the organization of your special project.

Goals:

1. To promote and encourage participation in the following junior programs.

1.1. Patch Program

- 1.1.1. Junior Auxiliary members and young SAL members may earn both physical and electronic patches for prescribed activities in Americanism, Community Service, Education, Field Service, Leadership, Membership, National Security, Physical Fitness, Poppy, Technology and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. In all age groups there is different information and activities to accomplish.

1.2. Pocket Flag Program

- 1.2.1. Folding pocket sized flags received from the Pocket Flag Program and sending them to our troops.

2. To increase membership and participation at all levels within the junior program.

- 2.1. Holding presentations at Unit, District and Dept meetings about the importance of junior membership.
- 2.2. Sending correspondence to current junior membership.
- 2.3. By holding a yearly junior convention and inviting the junior membership.

3. Creating a mentorship between the Past Department Presidents and the Juniors during Department meetings.

3.1. Have the Past Department Presidents attend a part of the Juniors meeting.

T each
E ncourage
A ccept
M entor

REMEMBER Together Everyone Achieves More

Fundraising:

1. Ways we are considering to raise funds for our programs and special projects.

- 1.1. Raffles and 50/50 drawings at Department conferences, conventions and meetings.
- 1.2. Special dinners, and bake sales at local Posts
- 1.3. Letters to Posts, Units and Detachments.

Scholarships:

1. Available scholarships for Juniors and recently graduated seniors. Go to alaforveterans.org to locate information on the following.

1. Spirit of Youth
2. Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

Citations & Awards:

1. Amelia Muth Citation (Unit Award)

1.1. Presented to the Unit chairperson reporting the best overall Junior activities program, including accomplishments in the Auxiliary program.

1.1.1. Narrative form

1.1.2. 1000 words or less

1.1.3. Typed double spaced

1.1.4. Unit name, number, Junior activities chairperson's name, address, and Dept name.

2. Junior Member of the Year

2.1. Award presented to a junior member in recognition of her dedicated service efforts and talents.

2.1.1. Written in narrative form, typed essay not to exceed 500 words describing nominee's accomplishments during the current administrative year.

2.1.2. Nomination must be signed by the Unit junior activities advisor, the senior Unit President.

2.1.3. Each Unit is limited to one nomination.

This nominee should not be an active Honorary Department Junior President

WINNING ENTRY TO BE FORWARDED TO NATIONAL FOR BOTH OF THE ABOVE

3. Tina Sutherland Citation

- 3.1. Award presented to a junior for her dedicated service, efforts and talents. This junior member has worked hard for the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. (Runner up for Junior Member of the Year)**
 - 3.1.1. Written in narrative form, typed essay not to exceed 500 words describing nominee's accomplishments during the current administrative year.
 - 3.1.2. Nomination must be signed by the Unit junior activities advisor, the senior Unit President.
 - 3.1.3. Each Unit is limited to one nomination.

4. Victoria Betz Spirit Citation

- 4.1. Awarded to the junior who has held an office either on a Unit or District level for her outstanding work in the Auxiliary programs as an officer.**
 - 4.1.1. Narrative form
 - 4.1.2. Double space
 - 4.1.3. Written in her own words
 - 4.1.4. No more than 5000 words
 - 4.1.5. Pictures allowed

5. Ada Samgster-Patricia Kwiatkowski Citation

- 5.1. To the junior Unit reporting the most complete junior participation in Civil Preparedness and National Security.**
 - 5.1.1. Narrative form
 - 5.1.2. Double spaced
 - 5.1.3. 1000 words
 - 5.1.4. Pictures allowed

6. Leona Puckett Department Leadership Award

6.1. This award is given to the junior member who exemplifies leadership within the junior group. The purpose is to develop and prepare capable and knowledgeable leaders to carry on the growth and success of the Auxiliary by promoting activities and resources that educate, motivate and mentor members of all ages and levels of the organization.

6.1.1. Narrative form

6.1.2. 500 words

6.1.3. Pictures and examples encouraged

****ALL AWARD SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON NO LATER THAN APRIL 15, 2024. BE SURE TO ATTACH THE GREEN SLIP!!!!****

Junior Information

Department of Michigan Honorary Junior President:

Abbie Jones

Special Project:

Guardian Angels (medicalservedogs.org)

Mascot:

Yoda

Honorary Department Junior Officers:

President: Abbie Jones

1st Vice:

2nd Vice:

Chaplin:

Historian:

Sgt@Arms:

Committee Members:

Chairperson:

Dawn Burton

1308 S Oakland St

St.Johns, MI 48879

(989)304.1648

dawnbauxiliary@gmail.com

Alexis Ramos

ajchampion24@gmail.com

**MID-YEAR REPORTS WITH ANY AND ALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FROM YOUR UNITS AND OR DISTRICTS NEED TO BE
SUBMITTED TO DAWN BY DECEMBER 30, 2024.**

Additional awards and contest junior members can participate in. Please visit the various program guides for rules and dates of participation.

1. Americanism

1.1. Essay Contest

2. Poppy

2.1. Poster Contest

2.2. Poppy Scrapbook

2.3. Poppy Awareness DisplayPoppy

2.4. Artistic Displays

3. VA&Rb

3.1. Volunteering for Hour Bars