



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Minnesota
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Hello, my name is Joanne Joachim and I will be the Americanism Chairman for 2019-2020

***Special 100th Anniversary History Program Facts:** Americanism: a term which became relevant in the latter 19th century standing for allegiance to traditions. When the concept of Americanism was first used, nearly half of all Americans had not attended high school and many, being immigrants, did not speak English. Education came to the forefront to teach English, Americanism and Patriotism as well as to understand what our veterans had endured during the war. As the programs of The American Legion Family grew, so did the knowledge and feeling of Americanism and U.S. Flag became our symbol freedom and patriotism, known all over the world*

This year I would like to emphasize the Americanism Essay Contest. I am putting in with this mailing the coversheet which must accompany every essay. I think we have some Units that like to get this information out to the schools just as soon as possible.

I'd also like to get information out there for the American Legion Oratorical Contest. This is a great program. I've helped at some past Contests and I cannot speak highly enough of the contestants. Information is enclosed. If a student enters one year and does not make it to the next level they may still be eligible to enter next year's contest. The Contest is for students in Grades 9 thru 12. This would be a great opportunity to work with your Post to get contestants for the Contest. This will come up pretty quickly as the District contests are held in January.

The Star Spangled Kids program which you may want to work with your Education and Children/Youth Chairman.

And I cannot emphasize enough that there is much information available online as well for the Americanism and all Auxiliary programs.

If you have any questions on anything, don't hesitate to call and I will try to get an answer for you.

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