



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Minnesota
State Veterans Service Building
20 W 12th St. #314 St Paul MN 55155
Telephone 651-224-7634 Fax 651-224-5243
Toll Free 1-888-217-9598
Email – deptoffice@mnala.org
Website - www.mnala.org

AMERICANISM

March/April 2018

By this time Units have received information to give to your local schools about the Americanism Essay Contest. February is “AMERICANISM” month and this year’s Essay Title is: **“What can I personally do to promote Americanism in my school or community”**. The Americanism Essay Contest 2018 cover sheet must be used with each Essay and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Chairman MUST sign the cover sheet. Essays are due at the Department Office by April 1st, 2018. Essays are then moved to the National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15th, 2018. Unit members please encourage your children and grandchildren to participate in the essay contest.

Units can publish flag etiquette tips in your newspaper and on social media, host a flag awareness events communicate information in your schools, post home and public functions. Encourage local businesses to fly a flag, especially on patriotic holidays. Encourage your own members to fly the American flag in their yards, as well as educate proper flag display and respect. Purchase “The Flag Code” brochure and distribute in your schools and community (brochure can be ordered from Emblem Sales). Organize a Flag Disposal Ceremony and invite the community to be a part of this special event. You could even serve bars and coffee afterwards.

March, marches toward the month of April which is none other than ANNUAL REPORTS month I am hoping that I don’t receive any annual reports that say, “Did Not Participate”. It’s hard for a Chairman to believe your Unit “did not participate” because being an AMERICAN citizen makes you qualified to promote American patriotism, showing respect for your country and its flag. We have opportunities to set positive examples of living in the United States of America as a GRATEFUL patriotic citizen. Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at your Unit meetings, singing the Nation Anthem at sporting events and flying an American fly, these promote the spirit of patriotism and you have now participated!!! 100% reporting for Americanism!!!

As Americanism Chairman I will have the wonderful opportunity to attend the 2018 Girls State Week at Bethel University in the cities on June 11th-17th. A first time ever experience instructing approximately 400 young women how to love the United States of America and its freedom’s. A reminder to all Units to get information packets to your schools about Girls State because of deadlines. Bethel University will be under construction during Girls State week, so please give the information a little more attention as there are some “Do’s and Don’ts”.

Americanism Chairman
Joanie Krantz



AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

2018 COVER SHEET

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student’s name will be made to the Children of Warriors National President’s Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at www.ALAforVeterans.org after National convention.

Essay Title: “WHAT CAN I PERSONALLY DO TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM IN MY SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY?”

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’s grade level.

Essay Checklist:

- o Class competing in _____.
- o Sponsoring ALA Unit # _____.
- o Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement of class.
- o Completed essay coversheets as first page of essay.
- o Word count of the essay _____.
- o Due date: _____ for student to return to ALA Unit. Unit sends to Department by Apr. 1st

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: _____
 Address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____
 Email address: _____ Phone: _____
 School Name: _____ School City/State: _____
 Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered)

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15th, 2018