



It is our right and our role  
To remember these words scratched on a scroll,  
So we may live them and heal our nation whole.  
We roll up our sleeves, we believe in the dream,  
And these American stories, in the glory of the struggle,  
For it is from our struggle that comes our nation's strength,  
For the lengths that we fight for what is right  
Is the fullest measure of our country's might.

--Amanda Gorman, "Believer's Hymn for the Republic."

## **Americanism 2023-2024**

It is laid out in the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary. Americanism is not only one of the four pillars of the organization, but woven into the fabric of everything we do and we recommit ourselves to it when we recite the Preamble each time we meet:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of American.
- To foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism.
- To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy.

### **How to live and promote these ideals in your community:**

- Promote the Americanism Essay Contest in your local schools.
- Promote respect for the American Flag, including Flag Etiquette, proper handling and disposal, and standing for the National Anthem.
- Work with your American Legion Post and other veterans organizations in your community to speak to school age children and youth about what the flag and freedom mean to them. Beyond the school walls, reach out to local youth organizations, such as Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H and Boys and Girls Clubs. This may tie into projects or badges that they are working on.
- Encourage ALA Junior members to work toward earning their Americanism program patches.
- Encourage voting in your community and show your children and grandchildren the importance of voting by taking them with you when you vote.
- Educate localities about the Freedom Flag and promote flying it in your communities.
- Promote patriotism in today's children and youth by promoting the "Star Spangled Kids" program.
- Co-Promote with The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest with your American Legion Post.

Please share how your Unit shows their pride and patriotism with me and you might get featured in a newsletter or on-screen at a Conference or Convention! JPG format pictures are preferred.

All mid-year reports are due December 1, 2023 and end of year reports are due April 15, 2024. Please mail your reports to 10 Jamestown Road, Farmville, VA 23901 or email them to [americanism@vaauxiliary.org](mailto:americanism@vaauxiliary.org).

Erika Evans Americanism Chair <a href="mailto:americanism@vaauxiliary.org">americanism@vaauxiliary.org</a>	Judy Gallagher Americanism Vice-Chair <a href="mailto:mkscrappy@gmail.com">mkscrappy@gmail.com</a>	PDP Dawn Thomas Advisor, Americanism Committee
--	--	---

