

Americanism 2024-2025



“The way to be patriotic in America is not only to love America, but to love the duty that lies nearest to our hand, and to know that in performing it we are serving our country.”

— Woodrow Wilson

How to inspire patriotism within your community:

- Encourage voting in your community by offering rides to those needing transportation.
- Work with your local school Principals to raise awareness of the Americanism Essay Contest. Then, invite students to display the essays at your post or ask them and their family members to attend a special reading of essays at the post or another community event. Be sure to announce the essay contest winners to your local news outlets and on your social media while “tagging” community organizations to raise awareness of the program and the student’s efforts.
- Encourage your ALA Girls State participants to enroll in The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. Additionally, unit members should be encouraged to volunteer as judges and handlers during the oratorical contest.
- Ask veterans to show kids in your community how to fold a flag while discussing flag etiquette properly, proper flag handling and disposal, the importance of standing for the National Anthem, and how one places a hand over the heart during the Pledge of Allegiance. Encourage your post’s grandkids, kids, ALA Juniors, and SAL youth members to assist in ceremonies.
- Create opportunities for ALA Junior members to earn Americanism program patches.
- Educate local businesses about the Freedom Flag and promote flying it in your communities.
- Email information regarding the “Star Spangled Kids” program to schools, churches, and community organizations. Post information on your unit’s social media to raise awareness.

Please share with us how your Unit shows its pride and patriotism, and you might find it 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, 2024, and end-of-year reports are due April 15, 2025. Please mail your reports to 506 First Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003, or email them to CarolHarlowDC@gmail.com

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