American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York

Plan of Action
2026-2027

Department President
Lora A. Rowe

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American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Lora A. Rowe – President 2026-2027

What an honor and great privilege it is to serve as your Department President this year. Thank you for making my dream come true and I am extremely excited to work alongside each of you this year for the betterment of our Veterans.

"Sing Praises to Veterans" is my theme this year.
It portrays deep admiration for our veterans for their bravery and the sacrifices that they endure for us. Please help me this year sing praises honoring those who have left the comfort of their homes to safeguard the liberty we take for granted and enjoy every day. They are true unsung heroes who deserve our deepest gratitude.

To coincide with my theme, my project this year is **Veterans Creative Arts**. In 2000, the American Legion Auxiliary partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs for the National Veteran's Creative Arts Festival. The Creative Arts has helped numerous veterans recover from physical and emotional disabilities through therapy and by connecting with other veterans who share similar stories by participating in dance, art, music, drama, and creative writing. There are 100 categories related to all aspects of music, dance, drama, and creative writing and in the visual arts division it has 51 categories ranging from oil paintings to sculpture.

The Arts is a healing therapy which allows veterans to be heard and to express themselves. Creative Arts helps veterans who suffer from PTSD, MST, and many other inner wounds. It has saved many veterans lives which also coincides with the Legion Family drive for Be the One.

Please help me this year bring that therapy and much needed healing to our veterans. The money raised will remain in New York State and be divided amongst those VAs that participate in the Creative Arts program to provide needed materials and supplies to the veterans who are enrolled there.

I am looking forward to meeting you during my travels throughout this magnificent state of New York with the Commander and Detachment Commander. I will forever cherish the memories.

God bless you, our Veterans, the American Legion Family, and God Bless America.

2026-2027
Department President's Awards

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE AWARDS

Unit

The Department President's Award will be presented to the Unit that donates the largest single donation into the Department Office by May 1, 2027, Department President's project "Veterans Creative Arts."

County

The Department President's Award will be presented to the County that donates the largest single donation into the Department Office by May 1, 2027, Department President's project "Veterans Creative Arts."

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE AWARDS

Write-up cannot exceed 1,000 words, it may include photos, PR clippings, printout of social media posts, etc. All entries are to be mailed to the Department President at her home no later than May 1, 2027. Email entries will not be accepted or considered.

AMERICANISM – To the Unit that submits the best overall Americanism Program. Program must include at least two of the programs as outlined under the Americanism Committee in the Plan of Action.

EDUCATION – To the Unit that submits the best program that is earmarked to educate children in the understanding of what our veterans mean to our country.

CHILDREN & YOUTH - To the Unit that submits the greatest number of Youth Hero and Good Deed Awards

LEGISLATIVE – To the Unit that submits the best program advocating for veterans. Program must include at least two of the programs as outlined under the Legislative Committee in the Plan of Action.

MEMBERSHIP - To the Unit that rejoins the largest number of members (including Senior and Juniors).

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILIATION - To the Unit that submits the best program serving our Veterans through Veterans Creative Arts.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILIATION (Walk-A-Thon) - To the Unit that submits the best program promoting the Annual SAL and ALA Walk-A-Thon 2027.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2026-2027

President

Lora Rowe C: 607-316-1020
nyalapresident@gmail.com

Vice Presidents:

Yvonne Brunner C: 516-351-0006
nyalamembership@gmail.com

Julianne Barton C: 315-794-5116
Nyalavaandr@gmail.com

Patricia Galley C: 585-322-3932
nyalachildrenandyouth@gmail.com

NEC

Karen St. Hilaire nyalaconstitution@gmail.com C: 315-748-4481

Secretary

Barbara Corker C: 914-489-7101
nyalasecretary@gmail.com W: 518-463-1162

Treasurer

Tara Verderese nyalatreasurer@gmail.com W: 518-463-1162

THE ADDRESS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE:

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York, Inc.
1580 Columbia Turnpike
Bldg. 1, Suite 3
Castleton-On-Hudson, NY 12033

PHONE NUMBER: (518) 463-1162
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY: 9:00AM-5:00PM
WEB PAGE: WWW.DEPTNY.ORG

OFFICE STAFF

Secretary/Director of Operations- Barbara Corker: nyalasecretary@gmail.com
Programs Coordinator- Caitlin Keaveny: nyalamemberdata@gmail.com
Office Staff – Audrey Regels: nyalaofficestaff@gmail.com

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2026-2027

Name	Address	Contact Info
1st Ardella Turner	dellatur@yahoo.com	C: 718-690-1123
2nd Marie SantaCroce	re507@aol.com	C : 718-938-5952
3rd Lucille Mozzillo	Lucille_lkpt@yahoo.com	C: 518-335-9197
4th Vickie Gauthier	Vgauthier1110@gmail.com	C: 518-322-5206
5th Deborah Atkins	Atkinsdeborah4@aol.com	C: 315-221-0167
6th Sherry Wilson	Slw0404@aol.com	C: 607-222-1248
7th Sandy Seacat	Seacatala2@yahoo.com	C: 585-622-0972
8th Suzanne Wesley	Mswesley1313@gmail.com	C: 716-870-5024
9th Dena Restaino	nitroxmom@aol.com	C: 914-261-5757
10th Nicole Ross	Rossn0614@gmail.com	C: 631-703-6353

DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENTS 2026-2027

Name	Address	Contact Info
1st Karen Chan	Kchan1291ala@gmail.com	C: 347-991-7332
2nd Vacant		
3rd Karen Drucker	dinkop@aol.com	C: 914-489-0306
4th Julie Montello	Ala574hf@yahoo.com	C: 518-338-7708
5th Karalyn Smith	ks5272.ks@gmail.com	C: 315-525-2335
6th Debbie Douglas	Debbiedouglas55@yahoo.com	C: 315-427-9489
7th Christine Ketchum	Ketchumchristine88@gmail.com	C: 585-313-5647
8th Rosemary O'Connell	Roeroe629@aol.com	C: 716-867-5516
9th Patricie Cortelli	mortcort@juno.com	C: 914-806-8531
10th Dawn Samuel	Tigger514@outlook.com	C: 917-548-4758

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2026-2027

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY COLLEGE:

Debby Herrmann ny.alacollege@gmail.com C: 585-491-2532

AMERICANISM:
Lucille Mozzillo nyalaamericanism@gmail.com C: 518-335-9197

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND:
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EMPIRE GIRLS STATE:
Chair:
Molly McLaughlin empiregirlsstate@gmail.com C: 585-484-0462

1st Vice:
Sarah Murphy egsvicechair@gmail.com C: 315-705-3082

2nd Vice: egsregistrar@gmail.com C: 518-335-9197
Lucille Mozzillo

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2026-2027

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Chair:

Mary Lou Platt nyalafinancechair@gmail.com H: 607-638-9525
C: 607-287-9883

Member:

Sally Johnston nyalafinance1@gmail.com C: 518-353-1517

Member:

Deborah Morris nyalafinance2@gmail.com C: 315-225-4631

HISTORIAN:

Anne Baglio nyalahistorian@gmail.com C: 716-432-1354

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES:

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LEADERSHIP:

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LEGISLATIVE:

Vickie Gauthier nyalalegislative@gmail.com C: 518-332-5206

MEMBERSHIP:

Yvonne Brunner nyalamembership@gmail.com C : 516-351-0006

NATIONAL SECURITY:

Dena Restaino nyalanationalsec@gmail.com C: 914-261-5757

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Nancy Babis nyalaparliamentarian@gmail.com C: 716-628-3797

POPPY/ POPPY POSTER:

Deborah Atkins nyalapoppy@gmail.com C: 315-221-0167

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2026-2027

PUBLIC RELATIONS:
Ardella Turner nyalapublicrelations@gmail.com C: 718-690-1123

Risk and Compliance:

Chair:
Carrie Davenport nyalariskcompliancechair@gmail.com C: 716-640-8695

Member:
Cathleen MacInnes nyalariskcompliance1@gmail.com C: 585-737-0194

Member:
Tracee Millard nyalariskcompliance2@gmail.com C: 917-929-6198

VA&R/ SERVICE TO VETERANS:

Julianne Barton nyalaVAandR@gmail.com C: 315-794-5116

WARRIORS FAMILY ASSISTANCE:

Gina Southcott nyalaWFA@gmail.com C: 315-576-6383

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS PROJECT:

Julianne Barton nyalaVAandR@gmail.com C: 315-794-5116

2027 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN:

Deborah Morris C: 315-225-4631

Tech Support

Kris Dziduch nyalatech@gmail.com C: 716-672-9651

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

1991-1992:	Cathleen MacInnes	cathemac@earthlink.net	C: 585-737-0194
1995-1996:	Mary Lou Platt (William)*	JAN31970@gmail.com	H: 607-638-9525 C: 607-287-9883
1996-1997:	Priscilla Imburgia (Frank)*	priscilla@teamfsi.com	C: 585-314-5275
2001-2002:	Mary Anne Casadei (Ronald)*	marycasadei1247@gmail.com	H: 315-339-1953 C: 315-225-1246
2002-2003:	Linda Moseman	linda.moseman111@gmail.com	C: 845-853-4471
2006-2007:	Joan Caccamo	jec2266@gmail.com	H: 718-788-4778 C: 917-549-4457
2008-2009:	Susan Britton (Donald)	suemb13@aol.com	H: 518-797-3383 C: 518-369-8832
2011-2012:	Ann Geer	auxanng@gmail.com	C: 607-435-3972
2012-2013:	Sally Johnston (Richard)*	alasallyjohnston@gmail.com	C: 518-353-1517
2013-2014:	Barbara Corker (James)*	babscork@optonline.net	C: 914-489-7101
2015-2016 :	Janet P. Mahoney (Joseph)*	mcrazyacres@aol.com	C : 845-594-7631
2016-2017:	Deborah Morris (Edward)	debk1794@yahoo.com	C: 315-225-4631
2017-2018:	Patricia Hennessy (Richard)*	Pathennessy99@aol.com	C: 518-469-7965
2018-2019 :	Marie Mock (Ned)*	mcmock@hotmail.com	H : 518-783-5316 C : 518-961-6142
2019-2021:	Linda S. Tome (Jerry)	lindatome.ala@gmail.com	C: 585-704-4775
2022-2023:	Nancy Babis (John)*	nbabis8dp@gmail.com	H: 716-434-9798 C: 716-628-3797
2023-2024	Karen St. Hilaire (Jerry)*	Sthkaren6@gmail.com	C: 315-748-4481
2024-2025	Kimberly A. Quick	Auxlady20@gmail.com	C: 518-948-5244
2025-2026	Maureen F. Morgan (Clarence)	rocklandgirl286@gmail.com	C: 845-729-5471

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS- DECEASED

1921-1922 Thias Prescott
1922-1923 Jane Keene
1923-1924 Mrs. Charles Seymour
1924-1925 Mrs. E. B. Garrison
1925-1926 Mrs. C.F. Parkhurst
1926-1927 Mrs. Isabel Burnham
1927-1928 Mrs. George Murphy
1928-1929 Mrs. William Pooley
1929-1930 Mrs. Frederick Williams*
1930-1931 Mrs. Whit Y. McHugh
1931-1932 Mrs. Clarence Cunion
1932-1933 Mrs. Charles Schmidt
1933-1934 Mrs. Frank Ambrose
1934-1935 Mrs. Alan Hathaway
1935-1936 Mrs. William Corwith*
1936-1937 Mrs. Clyde Kernahan
1937-1938 Mrs. Harvey Stegman
1938-1939 Mrs. Perry Alexander
1939-1940 Mrs. Herbert E. Hafley
1940-1941 Mrs. Rufus G. Grange
1941-1942 Mrs. Lillian Innecken
1942-1943 Mrs. G. K. Oxholm
1943-1944 Mrs. Leon Bristol
1944-1945 Sadie King
1945-1946 Betty Burdett*
1946-1947 Isobel Powers
1947-1948 Maud Millard
1948-1949 Mae Matthews
1949-1950 Myrtle Weber
1950-1951 Mrs. Harold Taylor
1951-1952 Mrs. George Carlson
1952-1953 Mrs. Leo Carey
1953-1954 Mrs. Stanley Autenrith
1954-1955 Mrs. Jesse Haley
1955-1956 Mrs. John Milbury
1956-1957 Mrs. Leonard Miscall
1957-1958 Mrs. James Cunningham
1958-1959 Mrs. Charles Collins
1959-1960 Margaret Hack
1960-1961 Mrs. Herbert Robbins
1961-1962 Mrs. Michael Boland
1962-1963 Mrs. Robert Johnson
1963-1964 Mrs. Charles Wright
1964-1965 Vivian Luitink
1965-1966 Mrs. William Peabody
1966-1967 Mrs. William Hutching
1967-1968 Agnes Kennedy*
1968-1969 Catherine Mazzie
1969-1970 Mrs. William Robinson
1970-1971 Ann Harrington
1971-1972 Mrs. James Coyle
1972-1973 Regina Davison
1973-1974 Mary Smack
1974-1975 Evelyn Sheldon
1975-1976 Mrs. Bernard Schork
1976-1977 Luana Clow
1977-1978 Betty Perkins
1978-1979 Annie Moskwa
1979-1980 Marion Capasso
1980-1981 Irene Tanner
1981-1982 Wilma Laraway
1982-1983 Betty Boulio
1983-1984 Hilda Davis
1984-1985 Charlotte Craven
1985-1986 Ann Henik
1986-1987 Phyllis Bachman Sickmond*
1987-1988 Violet Argila
1988-1989 Eleanor Priest
1989-1990 Helen Klimek
1990-1991 Anna Schultz
1992-1993 Betty Jane Light
1993-1994 Viola Babin
1994-1995 Juanita Lochner
1997-1998 Shirley Olinger
1998-1999 Anna Ballard
1999-2000 Regina Harris
2000-2001 Marie Cook
2003-2004 Violet Brosart
2004-2005 Patricia Dyer
2005-2006 Mary Williams
2007-2008 Carol Johnson
2009-2010 Karyn Porempski
2010-2011 Nancy Kurk
2014-2015 Diane Gerber
2021-2022 Mary Farley

***Past National President**

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:
To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during all Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity, the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

MISSION STATEMENT

In the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security.

PURPOSES

In fulfillment of our mission, the American Legion Auxiliary adheres to the following purposes:

- To support and advocate for veterans, military, and their families
- To support the initiatives and programs of The American Legion
- To foster patriotism and responsible citizenship
- To award scholarships and promote quality education and literacy
- To provide educational and leadership opportunities that uphold the ideals of freedom and democracy and encourage good citizenship and patriotism in government
- To increase our capacity to deliver our mission by providing meaningful volunteer opportunities within our communities
- To empower our membership to achieve personal fulfillment through Service Not Self

VALUES

Our statement of values is predicated on the founding purposes:

- Commitment to the four founding principles: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty
- Service to God, our country, its veterans, and their families
- Tradition of patriotism and citizenship
- Personal integrity and family values
- Respect for the uniqueness of individual members
- Truthful open communication in dealing with the public and our members
- Adherence to the adopted policies and rules

Programs in the 2026-2027 Plan of Action

Mission Outreach Programs

ALA Girls Nation – ALA Empire Girls State - American Legion Auxiliary units in all 50 states proudly host ALA Girls State, an amazing week of learning, focused on responsible citizenship, leadership, and love for God and Country. It is an educational Americanism program developed to offer a better perspective of the practical government operations and to emphasize the integral part that individuals have within a democratic government.

Americanism - The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship in our community. To ensure knowledge of flag history, etiquette, and proper disposal methods.

Children & Youth - The purpose of the Children & Youth Committee is to work collaboratively with The American Legion to promote programs that protect, care for, and support children and youth, especially those of our military and veterans.

Community Service - The Community Service committee's purpose is to support the American Legion Posts by providing assistance with blood drives, first aid training, CPR training, and child safety programs. To support women in shelters and the community disaster / emergency action plan.

Education - The Education Committee's purpose is to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children.

Junior Activities- The purpose of the Junior Activities Committee is to develop lifelong relationships with the Auxiliary's young members under the age of 18 so that they can carry on our mission as adult members. To promote the Patch program to assist them in learning our mission.

Legislative - The Legislative Committee's purpose is to support and promote the legislative priorities and initiatives of The American Legion, and train and inform members to become community-based advocates for veterans and their families with local, state, and national elected officials.

National Security - The National Security Committee's purpose is to promote a strong national defense, raise awareness of POW/MIA's and support active-duty military and their families and promoting Servicemember of the Year.

Poppy -The Poppy Committee's purpose is to educate our membership and the public about the symbolic significance of the poppy as the visual image of the sacrifice of service made by our veterans and increase the number of poppy makers in our community.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation - The purpose of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee is to promote programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families, ensuring restoration and/or transition to normally functioning lives.

Member Support Committees

Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) - The Auxiliary Emergency Fund committee's purpose at the National level, provides grants to American Legion Auxiliary members who qualify for specific types of emergency assistance.

History – The History Committee's purpose is to organize, preserve, and manage the display or safekeeping of historical artifacts and documents of the organization.

Constitution & Bylaws - The Constitution & Bylaws committee's purpose is to assist and educate members about the need to have proper governing documents at all levels.

Leadership - The Leadership committee's purpose is to promote ways to attract and develop leaders in the organization, with Auxiliary members who have served as unit, county, district, or department level as mentors. Promote participation in the ALA academy.

Membership - The Membership Committee's purpose is to promote the benefits of membership and promote retaining and recruiting a diverse, active membership to carry out the American Legion Auxiliary mission and programs.

Public Relations - The Public Relations Committee's purpose is to promote awareness of the organization and promote brand loyalty to the organization. The Public Relations Committee uses a variety of media outlets including TV, radio, print, and social media to make the public award of who we are, what we do, and why the ALA matters.

Warriors Family Assistance - The Warriors Family Assistance (WFA) is a program developed and introduced by the Department of New York American Legion Auxiliary to come to the direct aid of our veterans and their families.

Administrative Committees

Risk & Compliance - The Risk & Compliance Committee's purpose is to provide risk assessment and oversight assistance to the unit, county, and department governing board in fulfilling the board's responsibilities regarding accounting and reporting practices, reliable systems of internal control, corporate responsibility, and the quality and integrity of the Auxiliary's financial reporting. The Audit Committee members must be financially literate, and the chairman shall have the necessary background to be considered an "audit committee financial expert" in matters of accounting and auditing. Note: An audit committee is not an auditing committee. The Audit Committee does not review the units, counties or department's financial reports or financial recordkeeping. The Audit committee makes sure proper financial recordkeeping practices are in place. The Audit Committee operates at arm's length from the rest of the organization, and its members should not hold other unit, county, or department leadership positions.

Finance - The Finance Committee's purpose is to oversee the development and implementation of general financial policy subject to approval or ratification by the unit, county or department's governing board and provides oversight of the budget and reports any significant variance to the unit, county, or department governing board.

Department of New York

Award Cover Sheet – 2026-2027

The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.
Please print clearly all the information requested.
Please make sure you fill out the correct section: Unit or County

.....

Unit Award

Please complete this section only

Committee sponsoring award: _____

Name of the award you are applying for: _____

Unit #: _____ Full official unit name: _____

Unit president/chairman **(circle one)** name: _____

Name that will be on the award presented: _____

Above listed person's ALA member ID#: _____ Phone number: (____) _____

Email address: _____

Signature of Member submitting award entry_____

****

County Award

Please complete this section only

Committee sponsoring award: _____

Name of the award you are applying for: _____

County: _____

Name of County chairman: _____

Name that will be on the award presented: _____

Chairman's phone number: (_____) _____ ALA member ID#: _____

Chairman's email address: _____

Signature of Member submitting award entry_____

*****The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include above*****
*****Please print clearly all information requested*****

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN BY MAY 1ST.

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Americanism

Department Chairman

Lucille Mozzillo
C :518-335-9197
E-mail – nyalaamericanism@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.

Be knowledgeable on flag history, etiquette, and proper disposal methods, and promote the observation of patriotic holidays so your community will look to the ALA for information.

- Work with The American Legion to increase respect for the flag in your community, including the proper way the American flag should be flown.
- At schools and organizations, teach proper handling, displaying, and respect for the American flag, as well as our National Anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Organize a patriotic holiday event or volunteer for local patriotic events in Auxiliary attire and network with prospective members.
- Sign up at https://www.legion.org/flag/246720/sign-american-legion-flag-alerts to receive notifications on when to display the flag at half-staff.
- Contact and ask state and federal government representatives to support the flag amendment. To find your representatives, visit https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials.
- Encourage members to participate in and utilize Wreaths Across America patriotic curriculum. For more information, visit https://learn.wreathsacrossamerica.org/teach.
- Recruit others to support the flag amendment by explaining what it is and why it is important. Sign up for The American Legion's legislative action alerts and follow the flag issues.
- Work with schools and organizations to promote Star Spangled Kids. For more information and resources, visit https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/Americanism/How-to-Promote-Star-Spangled-Kids.

Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest.

The Americanism Essay Contest topic for 2026-2027:

"How can you be a beacon of light for our veterans?"

Encourage Junior members and family members to participate in the essay contest.

- Work with school administrations to identify guidance counselors, and English and history teachers whose students would be interested in participating.
- Contact youth organizations to identify potential youth for participation in the contest.
- Provide all interested students with information packets explaining contest rules, deadlines, topics, and award opportunities.
- For details on the Americanism Essay Contest, visit https://www.legion-aux.org/americanism-essay-contest.

Participate in the promotion of The American Legion Americanism programs. Support American Legion Baseball:

- Support, sponsor, or donate to an American Legion Baseball team.
- Assist with the logistics of transportation, concession, and statistics for the teams.
- Contact local sports shops and ask if they would be willing to make donations toward a fundraiser or offer a discounted price to purchase items needed.
- Attend events in Auxiliary attire and network with prospective Legion Family members.
- For more information and resources, visit www.legion.org/baseball.

Support the Oratorical Contest:

- Help prepare your post home to sponsor a local or district contest.
- Volunteer to assist as a judge or timekeeper.
- Offer to help with refreshments.
- Provide transportation for candidates.
- Help recruit candidates at local schools and community organizations.
- Attend events in Auxiliary attire and network with prospective Legion Family members.
- For more information and resources, visit www.legion.org/oratorical.

Support Junior Shooting Sports, which promotes gun safety and marksmanship training for youth:

- Volunteer to help out with scoring, supervision, or transportation.
- Assist in fundraising for events.
- Help recruit candidates at local schools and other organizations.
    - Contact JROTC.
    - Contact Civil Air Patrol Cadets.
- Attend events in Auxiliary attire and network with prospective Legion Family members.
- For more information and resources, visit www.legion.org/shooting.

2026-2027 DEPARTMENT AMERICANISM AWARDS

DEPARTMENT AWARD RULES

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than May 1st unless a different date is specified.

Taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission is worth doing! It helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Write-up cannot exceed 1,000 words, it must include photos, PR clippings, printout of social media posts, etc. All entries are to be mailed to the Department President at her home no later than May 1, 2027. **Email entries will not be accepted or considered.**

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD:
To the Unit that submits the best overall Americanism Program. Program must include at least two of the programs as outlined under the Americanism Committee in the Plan of Action. Entry must be mailed directly to the Department Presidents home by May 1st, 2027.

THE MARIE C. MOCK AWARD: Awarded to the Unit with membership of 10-99 submitting the most outstanding Americanism program of the year.

THE JOAN CACCAMO AWARD: Awarded to the Unit with membership of 100 or more submitting the most outstanding Americanism program of the year.

THE PATRICIA M. HENNESSY AWARD: Awarded to the County submitting the best year-round Americanism Program.

2026-2027 NATIONAL AMERICANISM AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. The narrative can also be the department chair's report. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program (per division)
Presented: One unit in each division
Materials and guidelines:

- Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words that includes specific examples of how unit delivered mission service. Narrative can also include portions from department chair's report
- Should include action (high-resolution) photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1. *Note: entries will be accepted from unit chairs.*
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department Americanism Program (per division)
Presented to: One department in each division.
Materials and guidelines:

- Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words that includes program-related mission service; may include department chair's report.
- Should include action (high-resolution) photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Americanism Essay Contest
Submissions are due to the department chairmen no later than April 1. The current essay question and other important information may be found on the Americanism Essay Cover sheet located at https://www.legion-aux.org/americanism-essay-contest. Please refer to your local unit and department guidelines for their submission dates for this contest.

2026-2027 UNIT AMERICANISM REPORT

REPORTING DATES: □ November 1, 2026 □April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____Phone #: _____

Unit: _____ County: _____ District #: _____

_____ Unit does not have an Americanism Chairman

Please indicate the <u>Number</u> of events held by your unit for each category

____Flag etiquette program ____Get out and Vote

____Americanism Essay Contest ____Support of the American Legion Programs

____Flag Day Celebration ____Thank You Certificate for displaying the Flag

____Flag Disposal Ceremony ____Boy/Girl Scout

____Flags donated to the Community ____Other: (Please list below or add sheet)

Please answer the following questions (1-4) on the back of this report.

1. How did the unit promote the Americanism essay contest?
2. How did the unit promote the Flag history, etiquette, proper disposal methods?
3. How did the unit promote observation of patriotic holidays?
4. How did the unit support American Legion Americanism programs?
5. _____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA service?
6. _____Total number of volunteers for all projects
7. _____Total volunteer hours for all projects
8. _____Total number served
9. _____Total dollar value of the volunteer hour (multiply total hours by $36.14 hour)
10. _____Total dollar value of goods and materials

Please describe activities/projects carried out in the unit. (write on back or add a page)

_____

Impact Report: YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION

**** Insert Information from Unit Report line 7 & 11 as indicated below****

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line#	For any service not included in Sections 1-3	**Obtain Total From		Total
Line 19	Total number of hours	From line 7		
Line 20	Total dollars spent	From Line 10		$

Please send this report form to your County Americanism Chairman
Keep a copy of this report for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY AMERICANISM REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: □ November 10, 2026 □April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____Phone: _____

County: _____ District: _____

___ County does not have an Americanism Chairman

Please indicate the <u>Number</u> of events held by your units for each category.

____ Flag etiquette program ____ Get Out and Vote

____ Americanism Essay Contest ____ Support the American Legion Programs

____ Flag Day Celebration ____ Boy/Girl Scouts

____ Flag Disposal Ceremony ____ Thank you certificate for displaying flag

____Flags donated to the Community ____ Other: (Please list below or add sheet)

Please answer the following questions (1-4) on the back of this form.

1. How did the units promote the Americanism essay contest?
2. How did the units promote the Flag history, etiquette, proper disposal methods?
3. How did the units promote observations of patriotic holidays?
4. How did the units support American Legion Americanism programs?
5. _____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA service?
6. _____Total number of volunteers for all projects
7. _____Total volunteer hours for all projects
8. _____Total number served
9. _____Total hours members volunteered ___ (multiply X $36.14 hour)
10. _____Total dollar value of goods and materials

Please describe activities/projects carried out in the unit. (on back or add separate sheet)

Impact Report: YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION:
**** Insert Information from County reports enter information from lines 7 & 11*******

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line#	For any service not included in Sections 1-3	****Obtain Total From**		**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	**From line 7**		
Line 20	Total dollars spent	**From Line 10**		**$**

Send this report to the Department Americanism Chairman / Keep copy for your records

Department Americanism Chairman:
Lucille Mozzillo
C :518-335-9197
E-mail – nyalaamericanism@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
The American Legion Family College

ALA Liaison

Deborah Herrmann
C: 585-491-2532
Email: ny.alacollege@gmail.com

The American Legion Family College of New York is a three-day leadership immersion into The American Legion Family's programs and structure. The 2027 session is scheduled for June 4-June 6, 2027, and is being held at SUNY Morrisville.

Prerequisite: Be a current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion or The American Legion Riders.

Purpose: To enhance knowledge and appreciation of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, The American Legion Riders and their many subordinate programs. The overall expertise gained during the classroom and small group sessions prepares students for leadership positions in posts (units, squadrons, and chapters), counties, districts and the department through education, development, and motivation. The curriculum challenges the upcoming leaders to think critically and creatively about issues confronting The American Legion Family.

College Requirements: Each student must arrive on time, stay on campus, and must attend all classes with his/her assigned group in order to graduate and receive a Certificate of Completion and college pin. Each group will be given a Family challenge question to solve collectively and to present the solution(s) to the entire college.

Cost: Tuition is $300 per student, which includes two nights lodging in college dormitories (single rooms with 4 rooms to a pod, including a kitchenette, and one and a-half bathrooms). Men and women will have separate sleeping areas. All meals are provided from Friday evening through Sunday morning, along with program materials. Tuition may be paid by the student or sponsored by a unit, county, district, etc. Funding can even be paid by Bell Jar or Bingo funds, and fundraisers can be held as a means to pay for one or more students to attend.

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

The College begins on Friday afternoon and ends on Sunday at noon. Approximately 15 topic areas are covered in 25–50-minute sessions. The curriculum offers something for all members – regardless of the length of time you have been a member. Curriculum topics include but not limited to: ALA Programs (including Junior Auxiliary, Warriors Family Assistance, Poppies, VA & R, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Education, Scholarship, Reporting, ALA Academy), Americanism, Children & Youth, Online Membership Tools (ALAMIS), Legislative, Constitution and By-Laws, Duties of Officers, Marketing/ Public Relations, Membership, Service Officer, The American Legion Riders, Sons of The American Legion, Protocols and Procedures. Leadership training is incorporated throughout the curriculum.

Methods of Instruction: Department Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders faculty, staff, and past graduates of the College lead students through a number of classroom lectures and small group discussions. There is a maximum of 100 students divided into ten groups of ten.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The most up to date information regarding student application, instructor application, curriculum, and deadlines will be located at: https://nylegion.net/department/american-legion-college/. Our ALA Department of NY webpage will also link to this page. Also, please check our department newsletters for updates.

Please PRINT, COPY and DISTRIBUTE Application forms in your units, counties, and districts. The application ***must be completely filled out*** – (legibly printed or typed)
Tuition must be included with the application.
The deadline for applications is April 1, 2027, and the college will be limited to a size of 100 maximum to facilitate the learning experience. Send your applications early to reserve your spot!

Once you have been accepted and your tuition has been received, there will be **NO REFUNDS.** In the event you are not able to attend, a substitute may be submitted for consideration, or you may defer your attendance to the next college year, with approval.

2026-2027 DEPARTMENT AWARDS

The Nancy Babis Award: To the County with the largest number of ALA students attending and graduating from the 2027 college.

THE SHELBY SOBOLOWSKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD -The ALA College Alumnae Association is pleased to offer the opportunity for a full scholarship in memory of Shelby Sobolowski to the Department of New York American Legion Family College 2027 session. All applicants must submit a one (1) page essay on why attending the American Legion Family College will enhance their membership with the American Legion Auxiliary. Entries must include name, address, phone number, e-mail address, unit number, county, and district. Entries must be sent directly to Debby Herrmann. Entries must be received by March 1, 2027. The committee will review all applications and notify the selectee no later than March 31, 2027, of the selection.

LIAISON CONTACT INFORMATION
Debby Herrmann
C: 585-491-2532
Email: ny.alacollege@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)

Department Chairman
Marie SantaCroce
C : 718-938-5952
nyalaemergencyfund@gmail.com

The purpose of the AEF Committee is to raise funds for and promote knowledge about the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary up to $3,000 as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

- Share information about AEF grants at meetings, in newsletters, and on social media pages.
- Share application and donation links with department and unit members.

- Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained annual membership for three consecutive years (the current year applied and immediate past two years) and have not been awarded an AEF grant (hardship or disaster) in the previous twelve months are eligible to apply for a grant.
  - Encourage unit members to pay their annual dues in a timely manner and pay directly to ALA National Headquarters to avoid a lapse in membership and being ineligible for AEF assistance.
- Grant funds may be awarded only for past/overdue expenses related to retaining their primary shelter, essential household utilities, and/or a documented loss of income due to medical and/or employment reasons.
  - Share the correct AEF hardship application with unit members linked above. No other AEF application type will be accepted.
- AEF funds may be used to provide emergency assistance to eligible Auxiliary members whose primary residence has been devastated by disaster, including flood, hurricane, tornado, earthquake, fire, or another catastrophic event. Reimbursable expenses with itemized receipts will be considered for only essential emergency expenditures up to three weeks after incident/disaster.
  - Share the correct AEF disaster application with unit members. No other AEF application will be accepted.

DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND AWARD

THE BARBARA A. CORKER AWARD: A certificate to the Unit that contributed the largest single donation for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund, deadline is May 1st into the Department Headquarters.

2026-2027 NATIONAL AEF AWARDS

All AEF awards are determined by reports generated by the National Headquarters on donations received from departments, units, and ALA members from June 1 – May 31.

Unit Award: Unit and Unit Members Contributing the Largest Total Annual Amount (per capita) Award based on donations received from June 1 – May 31.
Department Award: Department Contributing the Largest Total Annual Amount. This award includes donations made by the department, and units and members of that state. Award based on donations received from June 1 – May 31.

Department Award: Department Contributing the Largest Total Annual Amount (per capita). This award includes donations made by the department, and units and members of that state. Award based on donations received from June 1 – May 31.

For the annual AEF awards, an individual ALA member's donation counts towards their unit's total donation and the unit's total donations also counts towards the department's total donation. ALL AEF donations must be received by May 31 at the National Headquarters to be counted toward the annual AEF awards.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Auxiliary Emergency Fund
Memorial Contribution

In Memory of_____

Contribution $_____

Donor Name_____

Unit Name & Number_____

Send to Department Office: American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033

Auxiliary Emergency Fund
In Honor of Contribution

In Honor of_____

Contribution $_____

Honoree's Name_____

Unit Name & Number_____

Send to Department Office: American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033

2026-2027 UNIT AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: □ November 1, 2026 □April 1, 2027

Unit Chairman_____

Address_____

E-mail_____Phone#_____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ **Unit does not have an Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman**

1. Total Unit Contributions $_____

2. Total Memorial Contributions $_____

3. Grand total of all Contributions $_____

4. Total hours members volunteered _____ Volunteer hour $36.14

5. Number of military families served: _____

6. Number of AEF Applications submitted_____

Describe special activities to raise funds for this committee: write on back or attach page

_____

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *****

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

I Impact Report Line#	Service for Military Families	Obtain Total From		Total
Line 8	Total **hours** members volunteered	*** Line 4**		
Line 9	Total dollars spent	*** Line 3**		$
Line 10	Number of military families served	*** Line 5**		

Send to your County Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: □ November 10, 2026 □April 10, 2027

County Chairman_____

Address_____

E-mail_____Phone#_____

County_____District_____

_____ County does not have an Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman

1. Total Unit Contributions $_____ # of Units Reporting: _____

2. Total Memorial Contributions $_____

3. Grand total of all Contributions $_____

4. Total hours members volunteered _____ Volunteer hour $36.14

5. Number of military families served: _____

6. Number of AEF Applications submitted_____

Describe special activities to raise funds for this committee (write on back or attach page)

_____

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *****

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

Impact Form Lines	Service for Military Families	Obtain Total From		Total
Line 8	Total **hours** members volunteered	*** Line 4**		
Line 9	Total dollars spent	*** Line 3**		$
Line 10	Number of military families served	*** Line 5**		

Send to the Department Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman

Marie SantaCroce
C: 718-938-5952
nyalaemergencyfund@gmail.com

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Chaplain

Department Chairman
Sherry Wilson
607-222-1248
Email - nyalachaplain@gmail.com

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

The chaplain should attend all meetings and have an opening and closing prayer at each meeting. These prayers may come from any source: Reflections in the quarterly Auxiliary magazine, www.ALAforVeterans.org, self-composed prayers, or those found elsewhere.

As a chaplain, the most important thing for you to remember is that the American Legion Auxiliary does not promote any one religion. We must not offend anyone by promoting our own religion.

Suggested activities:

- Reporting the names of members who are ill and sending them cards.
- Sending sympathy cards to family members. If possible, visiting the funeral and doing a memorial service for the deceased member.
- Being in charge of religious services for the unit.
- Visiting members and veterans in nursing homes or those who are shut-ins.
- Keeping in contact with Gold Star Families and remembering them on holidays.
- Volunteering at community projects.
- Making a prayer book or devotional book. In doing this, encourage member participation.
- Complete a death notice for all members. Send it to the Department Chaplain promptly for best follow-up.
- Ceremonies may be found in the Manual of Ceremonies of American Legion Auxiliary.

Please remember to send a prayer for Department President Lora's Prayer Book. The goal is to have at least 100 prayers for this special book. Please send them to the Department Chaplain by May 1st to be included in the book.

Additional Resources You Can Use

1. www.ALAforVeterans.org:
    a. American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guidebook
    b. Guidelines for National Chaplain of the American Legion Auxiliary
    c. Chaplain's Prayer Book of the American Legion Auxiliary

CHAPLAIN - DEATH NOTICE
2026-2027
(Please print or type)

Name of Deceased: _____ID#_____

Unit Name & No. _____County: _____

Date of Death: _____ Senior member_____ Junior Member_____

Charter Member: _____Life Member: _____ Gold Star Mother: _____
* * (See below for definitions)

Past President: Unit_____ County: _____ District: ____ Department: ____ National_____

(Must have complete and correct address to send card)

Relationship of person receiving sympathy card: _____

Sympathy card to be sent to: _____

Complete address: _____
Street City State Zip

UNIT CHAPLAIN: _____ Tel#: _____

==========

***** Definitions*****

Charter Member –Is when a Unit is organized and a Charter is approved and granted, all applicants paying their dues may sign the Charter. (Transfer members may sign also.)

Life Member – Is when a Unit honors an outstanding member and confers a Life Membership to her (only after the approval of the Dept. Secretary). Her dues are then paid by the Unit.

Gold Star Mother – Is a mother whose son or daughter died while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during specific war and hostility dates.
==========

Send this report to: Department Chaplain and a copy to the Department Office in a timely manner.

Sherry Wilson
607-222-1248
nyalachaplain@gmail.com

2026-2027 UNIT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: □ November 1, 2026 □ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a Chaplain

No. of Invocations: _____Benedictions: _____

Charters Draped: _____Memorial Services held: _____

Courtesies to Gold Star Families: ___Dues ____ Cards ____ Gifts ___Total Cost_____

Total amount of Memorial donations: $. _____

Value of a volunteer hour $36.14 _____

No. of Funerals attended: _____No. of Members attended: _____

Grave markers placed _____Total cost _____

Did your Unit prepare a Prayer Book for the Unit President? _____

Were Prayers sent in for the Department President's Prayer Book? _____

Were Prayers sent in for the National President's Prayer Book? _____

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Send this report to your County Chaplain
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY CHAPLAIN'S REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ **November 10, 2026** ☐ **April 10, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

County: _____District: _____
_____**County does not have a Chaplain**

No. of Units in County _____No. of Units reporting _____

No. of Invocations _____Benedictions _____

Memorial Services held _____ Charters Draped _____

Courtesies to Gold Star Families: ____ Dues____ Cards ____ Gifts ____Total Cost _____

Total amount of Memorial donations: $_____

Value of a volunteer hour $36.14 _____

No. of Funerals attended _____No. of Members attended _____

Grave markers placed _____Total cost _____

Did Units prepare Prayer Books for Unit President? _____ How many? _____

Were prayers sent in for the Department President's Prayer Book? _____

Were prayers sent in for the National President's Prayer Book? _____

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Send this report to **Department Chaplain** and keep a copy for your records

Sherry Wilson
607-222-1248
nyalachaplain@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Children & Youth

Department Chairman
Patricia Galley
C: 585-322-3932
nyalachildrenandyouth@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Children & Youth Committee is to work collaboratively with The American Legion to promote programs that protect, care for, and support children and youth, especially those of our military and veterans.

The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

- Wear purple April 15 in honor of Purple Up! Day for Military Kids.
- Perform the Military Child Table ceremony at a unit meeting or in your community.
- Contact your local churches, homeless shelters, and food pantries to identify homeless veterans' children. Ask what their specific needs are and offer them your services as an ALA member.
- Contact your local news sources (newspaper, community television, community websites, and social media accounts) and town council with an offer to give a presentation about you and your unit's work for veterans and military children.
- Plan a special celebration for children during the month of April in honor of Children & Youth Month and Month of the Military Child (#momc).
- Host a dinner, game night, or community fair, etc., that will bring military and non-military families together.

To recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units:
the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award.

- Watch your social and local media for possible nominations of students.
- Use the online form to submit your nomination.
- Invite your winners to a unit meeting to present the award to them.
- Contact your local media and submit a press release regarding the award presentation.
- More information: https://member.legion-aux.org/youth-hero-good-deed-awards

Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) is an initiative honoring military children who may be experiencing a separation from one or both parents, whether deployed to a war zone, having a short tour, or on an extended temporary duty assignment.

- Volunteer at a Family Readiness Group event where KDH2 "I'm a Hero 2" buttons/stickers can be distributed.
- Host a KDH2 celebration with recognition buttons/stickers to let military kids know we appreciate their sacrifices.
- More Information: https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/children-and-youth/recognize-kids-of-active-military

The American Legion Auxiliary Children & Youth program strives to support and promote the Children & Youth program of The American Legion.

- Work with your post to organize celebrations for the youth in your community. Host an Easter egg hunt, a Christmas party, or a family movie night, etc.

- Work with your post to cross-promote youth programs. Invite Legionnaires to speak at a unit meeting about Legion Boys State, Legion Baseball, Oratorical Contest, etc. Speak at a post meeting about ALA Girls State, Junior Activities, etc.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH RULES

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in folder.
- Pictures, newspapers clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than **MAY 1st** unless a different date is specified.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD: To the Unit that submits the greatest number of Youth Hero and Good Deed Awards.

***THE MARYANNE CASADEI AWARD*:** An award to the Unit/County reporting the best year-round program for children with special needs to include but not limited to, vision hearing, speech, learning disabilities, behavioral problems, cerebral palsy, and other physical, emotional, or mental disabilities. Awards may include but not limited to greatest monetary donation, volunteer hours, and donation of goods. Programs may take place in group homes, schools, hospitals, DDSO Homes, respite, church, afterschool, Post home or where there is a scheduled program for children.

2026-2027 NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission works your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program (per division)
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department Children & Youth Program (per division)
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Photos (in a high-resolution format) that show unit mission Children & Youth Committee activities accompany these reports.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE YOUTH HERO AND GOOD DEED AWARD ARE SUBMITTED ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE VIA FORMSTACK

Youth Hero Medal and Citation

- Presented to: Youth under 18 years of age who have performed heroic acts of physical valor; membership in The American Legion Family is not required.
- Materials and guidelines:
  - Complete the Youth Hero and Good Deed Award Nomination Form on the National Website.

    - The award certificate, signed by the National President and national Children & Youth chairman, and Youth Hero Award medal will be returned to the unit or department to be presented on behalf of the National organization.
    - The department Children & Youth chairman should be notified of the award.

Good Deed

- Award: Citation
- Presented to: Youth under 18 years of age who have performed specific good deeds and are great examples of community service in action; membership in The American Legion Family is not required.
- Materials and guidelines:
    - Complete the Youth Hero and Good Deed Award Nomination Form on the National website
    - The award certificate, signed by the National President and national Children & Youth chairman, will be returned to the unit or department to be presented on behalf of the National organization.
    - The department Children & Youth chairman should be notified of the award.

Child Well-Being Foundation

Established in 1954, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation now renamed The Child Well-Being Foundation was developed as a repository of funds from individuals who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country. Our foremost philanthropic priority is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children and youth by aiding progress in the field of child welfare through dissemination of knowledge about research, studies, surveys, projects, or by supporting programs and activities benefiting the welfare of children and youth.

Not all-American children grow up inside the comfortable definition of normal childhood development. For thousands, each day is a challenge marked by pain, prayer, and perseverance. Many of these children require specialized care. To overcome their obstacles, they need help from you and The American Legion Child Well-Being Foundation.

IMPORTANT DATES

April is the Month of the Military Child
April 15: Purple Up! Day for Military Children

2026-2027 UNIT CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: □ **November 1, 2026** □ **April 1, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ *Unit does not have a Children & Youth Chairman*

1. Total Hours for Youth Activities _____
2. Dollars Spent on Goods for Youth Activities $_____
3. Total other **Unit** expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies) $___._____
4. Total number of children/youths served _____
5. Donations to all other child service charities $_____.
6. Dollar amount of direct cash aid to help a needy child $_____
7. Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 hour) $_____

Please answer the following questions (Please use back page or additional paper)

- What events were held to support children and youth? This includes Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDHD). Please include how many children were helped, volunteer hours, funds raised and used, and online materials you used.
- Please separate programs for veterans and military families from other children and youth activities.
- What was the amount of money raised or donated for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation? How was the Child Welfare Foundation promoted?
- How did you celebrate the Month of the Military Child in April, including Purple Up! Day on April 15?
- How did you promote the ALA's Youth Hero and Good Deed awards?
- Is there something your members accomplished this year for which you are exceptionally proud? Attach pictures if possible

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

3.Our ALA Service for Youth

Impact Report	**Service for Children & Youth**		**Total**
Line 13	Total hours for other Legion Family youth activities	From Line #**1**	
Line 14	Dollars spent on goods for youth activities	From Line #**2**	$
Line 15	Dollar amount of direct cash aid to help a needy child	From Line #6	$
Line 16	All other **UNIT** expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies)	From Line #3	$
Line 17	Total number of children/youths served	From Line #4	
Line 18	Donations to all other child service charities	From Line #5	$

Send completed form to: Your County Children & Youth Chairman
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: □ November 10, 2026 □ April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have a Children & Youth Chairman

1. Total Hours for Youth Activities _____
2. Dollars Spent on Goods for Youth Activities $_____
3. Total other **Unit** expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies) $_____
4. Total number of children/youths served _____
5. Donations to all other child service charities $_____.
6. Dollar amount of direct cash aid to help a needy child $_____
7. Value of a volunteer hour is $36.14 X total hours members volunteered $_____.
8. Any additional county expenses$_____

Please answer the following questions (Please use back page or additional paper)

- What events were held to support children and youth? This includes Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDHD). Please include how many children were helped, volunteer hours, funds raised and used, and online materials you used.
- Please separate programs for veterans and military families from other children and youth activities.
- What was the amount of money raised or donated for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation? How was the Child Welfare Foundation promoted?
- How did you celebrate the Month of the Military Child in April, including Purple Up! Day on April 15?
- How did you promote the ALA's Youth Hero and Good Deed awards?
- Is there something your members accomplished this year for which you are exceptionally proud? Attach pictures if possible

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ***

Impact Report	**Service for Children & Youth**	**Total from all Units**	**Total**
Line 13	Total hours for other Legion Family youth activities	From Line #**1**	
Line 14	Dollars spent on goods for youth activities	From Line #**2**	$
Line 15	Dollar amount of direct cash aid to help a needy child	From Line #6	$
Line 16	All other **UNIT** expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies)	From Line #3	$
Line 17	Total number of children/youths served	From Line #4	
Line 18	Donations to all other child service charities	From Line #5	$

3.Our ALA Service for Youth

Send this report to **Department Children Youth Chairman** and keep a copy for your records

Patricia Galley
C: 585-322-3932
nyalachildrenandyouth@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Community Service

Department Chairman
Suzanne Wesley
C: 716-870-5024
E-mail: nyalacommunityservice@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Community Service Committee is to promote the American Legion Auxiliary's commitment to making our communities better places to live by supporting local service projects.

Promote American Legion Family Day — April 24, 2027
The National Executive Committee of The American Legion Passed Resolution No. 7 in October 2022, establishing American Legion Family Day to be observed annually on the last Saturday of April.

- Posts are encouraged to open their doors to members of their community for the day to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members, Legion Riders, and American Legion Auxiliary.
- Bring awareness to The American Legion's "Be the One" initiative to improve access and reduce the stigma around mental health services.
- Use the "How To" sheet to assist ALA members in promoting American Legion Family Day.
- Plan activities for various age groups.
- Highlight our 100+ years of service to veterans and the community.

Find new and creative ways to promote the program.
Continue to use what works but think outside the box for fresh ideas.

- Promote participation in blood drives, CPR training, and emergency preparedness (National Security).
- Suggest participation in child safety programs (Children & Youth).
- Participate in patriotic holidays (Americanism).
- Develop new ways to reach diverse groups (age, ethnicity, etc.).
- Encourage units to create visible events in the community that support veterans (VA&R).
- Use community events to raise awareness of The American Legion's Be the One initiative to reduce the rate of veteran suicide.

Participate in a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.
Promote patriotic community service activities to build community partnerships.
Use this holiday as an opportunity to serve veterans as our mission statement states.

- Help veterans in their home with projects like building an accessible ramp, yard work, or home repairs.
- Organize or participate in a stand down.
- Encourage members to check with their employers for Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service opportunities.
- Keep good records of hours and activities for year-end reporting.

Participate in the 9/11 National Day of Service.
Encourage members to make an official pledge of service on the 9/11 Day of Service website.

- A service pledge can be as broad or specific as the member would like, so long as it is in the spirit of service and remembrance.
-

- Invite members to “pass It on!” and share their pledge with others through Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, or other means.
- Participate in a volunteer activity or project of which they are already a part and encourage others to join.
- Organize a service activity specifically for 9/11 Day.
- Record hours and activities for year-end reporting.

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

DEPARTMENT AWARD RULES

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in folder.
- Pictures, newspapers clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

***THE JANET P. MAHONEY AWARD*:** To the County Community Service Chairman reporting the most outstanding County wide Community Service Award Event.

2026-2027 NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you are nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs — no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Program (per division)
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Unit Award: Best Promotion of American Legion Family Day (one per division)
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.

Department Award: Best Department Community Service Program (per division)
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

2026-2027 UNIT COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: □ **November 1, 2026** □ **April 1, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address _____Phone: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a community Service Chairman

Number of ALA volunteers_____ Total hours members volunteered_____

Number of community volunteers_____ Value of donations_____

Value of a volunteer hour is $36.14 X total hours **ALA members** volunteered = $_____.

- What specific things did the unit do to make their community a better place to live?
- What did the unit do to mobilize community support for those who are serving our country?
- How did the unit participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and the 9/11 National Day of Service? Please give as many specific details as possible.
- Did the unit find new and creative ways to promote the ALA Community Service program? Please give specific examples.
- How did the unit participate in American Legion Family Day?

Attach copies of narratives, pictures, and newspaper articles. Additional details can be provided on the back of this report or a separate page.

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *****

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Unit reports should be sent to your County Community Service Chairman
Please retain a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐ **November 10, 2026** ☐ **April 10, 2027**

Name: _____

Address_____

Email Address _____**Phone:** _____

County: _____**District:** _____

_____ **County does not have a community Service Chairman**

Number of ALA volunteers_____ Total hours members volunteered_____

Number of community volunteers_____ Value of donations_____

Value of a volunteer hour is $36.14 X total hours **ALA members** volunteered = $_____.

- What specific things did units in your county do to make their communities a better place to live?
- What did units do to mobilize community support for those who are serving our country?
- How did units participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and the 9/11 National Day of Service? Please give as many specific details as possible.
- Did units in your county find new and creative ways to promote the ALA Community Service program? Please give specific examples.
- How did units in your county participate in American Legion Family Day?

Attach copies of narratives, pictures, and newspaper articles. Additional details can be provided on the back of this report or a separate page.

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *****

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

County reports should be mailed or emailed to the Department Community Service Chairman. Please retain a copy for your records

Suzanne Wesley
C: 716-870-5024
nyalacommunityservice@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Constitution & Bylaws / Resolutions

Department Chairman
Karen St. Hilaire
315-748-4481
E-mail: nyalaconstitution@gmail.com

- The Constitution & Bylaws program informs and educates members of the American Legion Auxiliary on the importance and power of having properly written and regularly reviewed and updated governing documents at all levels of the organization.
- Your governing documents include your articles of incorporation (if incorporated), constitution, bylaws, standing rules, and policies.
- These fundamental rules of the organization state how the membership agrees to govern itself, how it will choose its leaders, hold its meetings, and policies of the administration of the organization.
- Knowing the non-profit laws in your state provides the essential foundation for your governing documents at the department, district, county, and unit level.
- The importance of having governing documents in place to allow operations to continue in an emergency has become absolutely vital.
- Keeping your governing documents up to date and making them available to all members are key to a healthy organization that functions as a team to support our veterans, military, and their families.
- Remember that department, district, county, and unit constitution, bylaws, and standing rules cannot be in conflict with national governing documents.
- When the national constitution, bylaws, and standing rules change, departments, districts, counties, and units should automatically update their governing documents.
- Contact your Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman for assistance. The National Association of Parliamentarians is a good resource to find a professional registered parliamentarian near you.

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Parliamentary Procedure

Department Chairman
Nancy Babis
C : 718-628-3797
Email: nyalaparliamentarian@gmail.com

Parliamentary procedures will ensure that your meetings will run smoothly, thereby making for a more successful organization at all levels.

Eight Steps in Processing a Main Motion

Step 1: Member rises and addresses the chair when nothing is pending. “Mr. President.” Or “Madame President.”
Step 2: Chair recognizes member by nodding at the member or stating his name. “Mr. Williams.”
Step 3: Member states his/her motion. “I move that we have a canned food drive.”
Step 4: Another member seconds the motion (without recognition). “Second.”
Step 5: Chair states the motion and places it before the assembly for discussion. “It is moved and seconded that we have a canned food drive. Is there any discussion?”
Step 6: Members have the right to get recognition and debate the motion. During debate subsidiary motions (i.e., amendments) may be introduced to help the assembly make a final decision.
Step 7: When discussion is finished the Chair puts the question to a vote. “The question is on the adoption of the motion that we have a canned food drive. Those in favor, say AYE.” (Pause.) “Those opposed, say NO.” (Pause.)
Step 8: Chair announces the results of the vote. “The AYES (NOES) have it; the motion is adopted (lost); we will (not) have a canned food drive; the next business in order is …”

Methods of Voting

Unanimous Consent – no member objects to a proposal that meets with general approval, a vote of silent agreement.
Voice Vote – regular method of voting on any motion that does not require more than a majority vote, most common form of voting.
Rising Vote – method used when a two-thirds vote is required for adoption; is also used when a member calls for a division of the assembly.
Show of Hands or Voting Cards – an alternative method for a rising vote.
Counted Vote – can be ordered by the chair when it appears a voice vote is unclear, and it can be ordered by a majority vote of the assembly.
Ballot or Roll Call Vote – can be ordered by a majority vote of the assembly and is required if specified in bylaws.

2026-2027 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS / RESOLUTIONS

TRANSMITTAL FORM

Unit Name and Number _____

County _____District _____

Constitution & Bylaws Chairman:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____Email _____

Have you:

- € Used the "Suggested Unit Constitution & Bylaws" form from the Department website?
- € Printed and completed two copies?
- € Completed all blanks on both forms, including the date the changes were approved by the unit?
- € Obtained the signatures of the President and Secretary on both forms?
- € Enclose a current copy of the Unit Constitution & Bylaws?
- € Updated your standing rules regarding your unit dues? Form can be found on the department website.

Send the completed documents with this form to:

PLEASE NOTE: If you are mailing in your Constitution and By-Laws with updates for review please send via regular mail. **DO NOT** send via Certified Mail/Registered Mail. They can also be emailed to the Department Chairman at the e-mail below to save postage.

Karen St. Hilaire
315-748-4481
E-mail: nyalaconstitution@gmail.com

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL DOCUMENTS ARE SIGNED AND DATED

Unit Name and #_____

Date of Unit Approval_____

_____
Signature of Unit President

_____
Signature of Unit Secretary

_____
Contact information: phone # and email

_____
Address, city, state, zip

_____
Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman, Reviewed and forwarded to Department.

_____
Date

STANDING RULES

1. The dues of Senior Members shall be (Current Per-Capita) + (_____) unit portion per year. As provided in the Unit Bylaws, modification to the dues for Senior and Junior members shall require a two-thirds vote in the affirmative by the members present at the meeting.

2. The dues of Junior Members shall be (Current Per-Capita) + (_____) unit portion per year. As provided in the Unit Bylaws, modification to the dues for Senior and Junior members shall require a two-thirds vote in the affirmative by the members present at the meeting.

Note: A Unit may have Standing Rules in addition to rules #1 and #2 above, subject to the review of the Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. If you have additional standing rules start with #3 and attach it to this page.

2026-2027 UNIT CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS / RESOLUTIONS

Reporting dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Unit: _____County: _____District_____

_____ Unit does not have a Constitution and Bylaws chairman

Has your Unit done an annual review of their Constitution & Bylaws?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Do you know when your Unit Constitution & Bylaws and/or Standing Rules were last revised?

- ☐ Yes - on _____
- ☐ Not sure

Has your Unit sponsored any Constitution & Bylaws activities? If so, what? _____

_____

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact report.**

Send completed form to your County Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS / RESOLUTIONS REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: □ **November 10, 2026** □ **April 10, 2027**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

County: _____District_____

_____ **County** does not have a Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

Have your Units done an annual review of their Constitution & Bylaws?

- ☐ Yes, all of them have
- ☐ No, none of them have
- ☐ Some of them have (please list the Unit numbers of those who have) _____

_____

When were the County Rules and/or Standing Rules last revised? _____

How did you inspire the Units in your County to review their governing documents? _____

_____

Have any Units in your County sponsored any Constitution & Bylaws activities?
If so, what?

_____

_____

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact report.**

Send completed form to the Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman by mail.

Karen St. Hilaire
315-748-4481
nyalaconstitution@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Education

Department Chairman
Charlene Mayville
C: 845-546-1689
nyalaeducation@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote quality education for children, especially for military children and adults.

Promote quality education for children, especially for military children, and adults.

- Participate in ALA's Give 10 to Education.
- Present a Give 20 to Education certificate to members who donate at least 20 items to schools.
- Participate in Teachers Appreciation Week.
- Contact local Parent Teacher Organizations or schools to see what your unit could sponsor or donate (e.g., donating doughnuts to your local schools).
- Show your appreciation to teachers by designing and presenting certificates of appreciation.
- Provide Teacher Survival Kits with fun and helpful items such as candy and snacks, tea bags or coffee, restaurant gift cards, or items for the classroom.
- Participate in American Education Week, held every November.
- Recognize school administrators and staff with special treats.
- Encourage schools to participate in Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! Day in April to honor their students who are military children.
- Sponsor a Purple Up! Day on April 15 in your school by providing purple items for students to wear.
- Present the Military Child Table at your school, unit meeting, or at your post.
- Sponsor a party for the military children in your school.

Encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms.

- Work with your American Legion post to participate in Veterans in Community Schools.
- Ask the teacher(s) to have their students make cards for the veteran.
- Work with the teacher(s) to prepare students to ask questions of the veteran.

Support and promote the Education Program and scholarship opportunities of The American Legion Family.

- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary's scholarships.
- Promote The American Legion's scholarships by visiting https://www.legion.org/scholarships to learn more about the Legion's scholarship opportunities.

Provide scholarships for students who desire a college education.

- Work with your unit to create a scholarship.
- Ask schools to allow you to do a bulletin board about scholarship opportunities within The American Legion Family.
- Publish information in your local newspaper, libraries, and on your unit's social media.
- Host a "Scholarship Night" Zoom meeting to inform students and parents about Legion Family scholarship opportunities.
- Start a partnership with a local college to provide their students with scholarship information.

- Ask the local Board of Education to host a “Scholarship Workshop” in their schools.
- Work with the schools to invite college administrators to speak.
- Have volunteers assist students with scholarship applications.

Support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities.

- Support The American Legion’s efforts by signing up for legislative alerts at https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home.
- Contact your representatives and ask them to support scholarship opportunities, particularly those for veterans, military, and their families.

Important Dates:

November 16-20, 2026: American Education Week
March 1: National scholarship applications due
April 15: Purple Up! Day for Military Children
May 3-7, 2027
: Teacher Appreciation Week

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK SCHOLARSHIPS

The following Scholarships are being offered by the Department of New York American Legion Auxiliary. Please refer to the rules and requirements for each scholarship application. All Department Scholarships are available on the Department website.

- Department Scholarship
- Ten Department District Scholarships
- Raymond T. Wellington, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
- Helen Klimek Student Scholarship
- Cerullo Memorial Scholarship (Sons of the American Legion)
- Past Presidents Parley Scholarship in the Medical Field

DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND RULES

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

Department President’s Award: To the Unit that submits the best program that is earmarked to educate children in the understanding of what our veterans mean to our country. Entry must be mailed directly to the Department Presidents home by May 1st, 2027.
.
***Department of New York Education Unit Award*:** A certificate will be presented to a unit Education Chairman reporting the most outstanding overall Education program.

10-75 members **76-150 members** **151 + members.**

2026-2027 NATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you’re nominating should receive the award. You may

also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Education Program (per division)
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1. Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department Education Program (per division)
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

National Scholarships

Scholarship applications are available for download on the national website, at www.ALAforVeterans.org/scholarships

A. **Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship**
   - Scholarship applications must be filled out on the National website
   - Deadline: March 1, 2027

B. **The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship**
   - Scholarship applications must be filled out on the National website
   - Deadline: March 1, 2027

C. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship**
   - Scholarship applications must be filled out on the National website
   - Deadline: March 1, 2027

D. **Member Loyalty Scholarship**
   - Scholarship applications must be filled out on the National website
   - Deadline: March 1, 2027

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518) 463-1162

SCHOLARSHIP COVER SHEET

NOTE: THIS SHEET MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE#: _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** _____

IT IS IMPERATIVE TO READ AND FOLLOW
ALL RULES FOR EACH SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORY

Please check the scholarship for which you are submitting.

_____ Department Scholarship

_____ Department District Scholarship (10)

_____ Raymond T. Wellington, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

_____ Past President Parley Student Scholarship (Medical Field)

_____ Helen Klimek Student Scholarship

_____ The Cerullo Memorial Scholarship (Sons of The American Legion)

NOTE: If applying for more than one scholarship, **ONLY ONE ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT WITH EMBOSSED SEAL AND FOUR ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION LETTERS ARE NEEDED**. Copies will be accepted for other applications (recommendation letters and a copy of the transcript where the embossed seal is evident). You MUST include the following with each scholarship application:

- Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
- One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
- Statement of extracurricular activities.
- Statement of participation in Civic affairs.
- Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
- Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
- Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
- **Must be sponsored by a local American Legion Auxiliary Unit. Signature of Unit President and Education Chairman required.**
- No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
- **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**
- **COUNTY CHAIRMAN MUST MAIL IT DIRECTLY TO THE DEPT. EDUCATION CHAIRMAN-EXCEPT THE CERULLO SCHOLARSHIP. DO NOT MAIL IT TO THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE.**

Unit: _____ **County:** _____**District:** _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship of $1,000 shall be awarded to an eligible candidate planning to further his/her higher education.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces from December 7, 1941, until the current date.
2. Applicant must be a United States citizen, a resident of New York State or an ALA Junior member or SAL member in the state of NY for the past three consecutive years and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in NY during the scholarship period.
3. Applicant must be a senior in high school. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Each Auxiliary Unit may submit **ONE** application by March 5th, to the County Education Chairman. Units are responsible for verifying all necessary information submitted by the applicant.
5. The County Education Chairman will forward all Unit entries that qualify to the Department Chairman on or before March 15th.
6. Selection will be made on the following basis:
   - Character/Leadership 30%
   - Essay/Application 30%
   - Academic Achievement, volunteerism 40%
7. The Department Education Chairman will appoint a committee of impartial judges for final judging.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form.
2. A Certified copy or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
3. Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
4. One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
5. Statement of extracurricular activities, participation in Civic affairs and volunteerism.
6. Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
7. Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
8. Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
9. Original article written by applicant consisting of no more than 1,000 words, on a subject of his/her choice.
10. Application must be signed by the applicant, the Unit President, and Education Chairman of the sponsoring Unit. All applications must be returned to the sponsoring Unit no later than MARCH 1ST.
11. No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
12. **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**

Unit: _____ County: _____District: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518) 463-1162

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP
Note: This application must be submitted to the sponsoring unit no later than March 1st.

Name of Applicant | Telephone

Street Address | City | State | Zip Code

Name of Parent | Address (if different from above)

Name of Veteran providing eligibility | Relationship to Applicant

Branch of service of veteran | Dates of Service

Name of Applicants High School | Date of Graduation

Name of College Applicant plans to attend | Course of Study

Street Address | City | State | Zip Code

$

Total Family Income | Number of Dependents under 18 | Number of Dependents over 18

Signature of Applicant | Date

Signature of Unit President | Signature of Unit Education Chairman

Unit Name and Number | County | District

Signature of County Chairman | Name of County Chairman | County

THIS APPLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

DEPARTMENT DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship of $1,000 shall be awarded to an eligible candidate planning to further his/her higher education.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces from December 7, 1941, until the current date.
2. Applicant must be a United States citizen, a resident of New York State or an ALA Junior member or SAL member in the state of NY for the past three consecutive years and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in NY during the scholarship period.
3. Applicant must be a senior in high school. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Each Auxiliary Unit may submit **ONE** application by March 5th, to the County Education Chairman. Units are responsible for verifying all necessary information submitted by the applicant.
5. The County Education Chairman will forward all Unit entries that qualify to the Department Chairman on or before March 15th.
6. Selection will be made on the following basis:
   - Character/Leadership 30%
   - Essay/Application 30%
   - Academic Achievement, volunteerism 40%
7. The Department Education Chairman will appoint a committee of impartial judges for final judging.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form.
2. A Certified copy or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
3. Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
4. One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
5. Statement of extracurricular activities, participation in Civic affairs and volunteerism.
6. Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
7. Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
8. Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
9. Original article written by applicant consisting of no more than 1,000 words, on a subject of his/her choice.
10. Application must be signed by the applicant, the Unit President, and Education Chairman of the sponsoring Unit. All applications must be returned to the sponsoring Unit no later than MARCH 1ST.
11. No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
12. **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**

Unit: _____ County: _____District: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518) 463-1162

DEPARTMENT DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP

Note: This application must be submitted to the sponsoring unit no later than March 1.

Name of Applicant Telephone

Street Address City State Zip Code

Name of Parent Address (if different from above)

Name of Veteran providing eligibility Relationship to Applicant

Branch of service of veteran Dates of Service

Name of Applicant's High School Date of Graduation

Name of College Applicant plans to attend Course of Study

Street Address City State Zip Code

$

Total Family Income Number of Dependents under 18 Number of Dependents over 18

Signature of Applicant Date

Signature of Unit President Signature of Unit Education Chairman

Unit Name and Number County District

Signature of County Chairman Name of County Chairman County

THIS APPLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

RAYMOND T. WELLINGTON JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship of $1,000 shall be awarded to an eligible candidate planning to further his/her higher education.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces from December 7, 1941, until the current date.
2. Applicant must be a United States citizen, a resident of New York State or an ALA Junior member or SAL member in the state of NY for the past three consecutive years and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in NY during the scholarship period.
3. Applicant must be a senior in high school. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Each Auxiliary Unit may submit **ONE** application by March 5th, to the County Education Chairman. Units are responsible for verifying all necessary information submitted by the applicant.
5. The County Education Chairman will forward all Unit entries that qualify to the Department Chairman on or before March 15th.
6. Selection will be made on the following basis:
   - Character/Leadership 30%
   - Essay/Application 30%
   - Academic Achievement, volunteerism 40%
7. The Department Education Chairman will appoint a committee of impartial judges for final judging.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form.
2. A Certified copy or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
3. Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
4. One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
5. Statement of extracurricular activities, participation in Civic affairs and volunteerism.
6. Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
7. Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
8. Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
9. Original article written by applicant: An autobiographical account written by the applicant of not more than 1,000 words (typed) which includes his/her interests and experiences, long range plans, and goals.
10. Application must be signed by the applicant, the Unit President, and Education Chairman of the sponsoring Unit. All applications must be returned to the sponsoring Unit no later than MARCH 1ST.
11. No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
12. **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**

Unit: _____ County: _____District: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

RAYMOND T. WELLINGTON JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Note: This application must be submitted to the sponsoring unit no later than March 1.

Name of Applicant Telephone

Street Address City State Zip Code

Name of Parent Address (if different from above)

Name of Veteran providing eligibility Relationship to Applicant

Branch of service of veteran Dates of Service

Name of Applicant's High School Date of Graduation

Name of College Applicant plans to attend Course of Study

Street Address City State Zip Code

$

Total Family Income Number of Dependents under 18 Number of Dependents over 18

Signature of Applicant Date

Signature of Unit President Signature of Unit Education Chairman

Unit Name and Number County District

Signature of County Chairman Name of County Chairman County

THIS APPLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

HELEN KLIMEK STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship of $1,000 shall be awarded to an eligible candidate planning to further his/her higher education.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces from December 7, 1941, until the current date.
2. Applicant must be a United States citizen, a resident of New York State or an ALA Junior member or SAL member in the state of NY for the past three consecutive years and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in NY during the scholarship period.
3. Applicant must be a senior in high school. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Each Auxiliary Unit may submit **ONE** application by March 5th, to the County Education Chairman. Units are responsible for verifying all necessary information submitted by the applicant.
5. The County Education Chairman will forward all Unit entries that qualify to the Department Chairman on or before March 15th.
6. Selection will be made on the following basis:
   - Character/Leadership 30%
   - Essay/Application 30%
   - Academic Achievement, volunteerism 40%
7. The Department Education Chairman will appoint a committee of impartial judges for final judging.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form.
2. A Certified copy or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
3. Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
4. One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
5. Statement of extracurricular activities, participation in Civic affairs and volunteerism.
6. Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
7. Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
8. Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
9. Original article written by applicant consisting of not more than 1,000 words (typed) on the significance of value of volunteerism as a resource toward the positive development of the applicant's personal and professional future.
10. Application must be signed by the applicant, the Unit President, and Education Chairman of the sponsoring Unit. All applications must be returned to the sponsoring Unit no later than MARCH 1ST.
11. No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
12. **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**

Unit: _____ County: _____District: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

HELEN KLIMEK STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Note: This application must be submitted to the sponsoring unit no later than March 1.

Name of Applicant Telephone

Street Address City State Zip Code

Name of Parent Address (if different from above)

Name of Veteran providing eligibility Relationship to Applicant

Branch of service of veteran Dates of Service

Name of Applicant's High School Date of Graduation

Name of College Applicant plans to attend Course of Study

Street Address City State Zip Code

$

Total Family Income Number of Dependents under 18 Number of Dependents over 18

Signature of Applicant Date

Signature of Unit President Signature of Unit Education Chairman

Unit Name and Number County District

Signature of County Chairman Name of County Chairman County

THIS APPLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

PAST PRESIDENTS' PARLEY SCHOLARSHIP IN MEDICAL FIELD

A scholarship of $1,000 shall be awarded to an eligible candidate planning to further his/her higher education in the Medical Field.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of veterans who served in the Armed Forces from December 7, 1941, until the current date.
2. Applicant must be a United States citizen, a resident of New York State or an ALA Junior member or SAL member in the state of NY for the past three consecutive years and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in NY during the scholarship period.
3. Applicant must be a senior in high school. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Each Auxiliary Unit may submit **ONE** application by March 5th, to the County Education Chairman. Units are responsible for verifying all necessary information submitted by the applicant.
5. The County Education Chairman will forward all Unit entries that qualify to the Department Chairman on or before March 15th.
6. Selection will be made on the following basis:
   - Character/Leadership 30%
   - Essay/Application 30%
   - Academic Achievement, volunteerism 40%
7. The Department Education Chairman will appoint a committee of impartial judges for final judging.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed application form.
2. A Certified copy or photocopy of applicant's high school grades.
3. Four letters of recommendation: which include one from the principal or guidance counselor of the school in which the applicant is enrolled, one from an educator or spiritual advisor of the applicant's choice, and two from representative citizens other than relatives, attesting to the character, industry, Americanism, Leadership and Scholarship of applicants.
4. One certified copy of high school grades with the embossed seal.
5. Statement of extracurricular activities, participation in Civic affairs and volunteerism.
6. Certificate of acceptance and/or letter from the college, etc.
7. Essay requirement (see individual scholarship requirement for topic).
8. Copy of your FAFSA application summary and/or confirmation sheet only.
9. Original article written by applicant consisting of not more than 1,000 words (typed) on "Why I selected the medical field."
10. Application must be signed by the applicant, the Unit President, and Education Chairman of the sponsoring Unit. All applications must be returned to the sponsoring Unit no later than MARCH 1ST.
11. No Auxiliary Unit may submit more than one candidate for each scholarship competition.
12. **MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE UNIT CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1ST.**

Unit: _____ County: _____District: _____

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518)463-1162

PAST PRESDENTS' PARLEY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP IN MEDICAL FIELD

Note: This application must be submitted to the sponsoring unit no later than March 1st.

Name of Applicant: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Complete Address: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian Name: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian Address if Different from above:

_____

Name of Veteran proving eligibility: _____ Relationship: _____

Branch of Service of veteran _____ Dates of Service: _____

Name of Applicant's High School: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Name of College/University applicant plans to attend: _____

College or University Address: _____

_____

Course of Study: _____Total Family Income: $_____

Number of dependents under 18: _____ Number of Dependents over 18: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____Date: _____

Unit Name and Number _____

Signature of Unit President: _____

Signature of Unit Education Chairman_____

_____

Signature of County Chairman Name of County Chairman County

THIS APPLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

Sons of The American Legion

DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK
1304 Park Blvd, Troy, NY 12180
(518) 463-2215 Fax (518) 427-8443 *
Email: info@nylegion.org * Website: www.ny.legion.org

THE CERULLO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RULES

Up to four (4) Scholarships in the amount of $500.00 each will be awarded annually. One (1) new and up to three (3) renewable scholarships to previous winners, see Rule 5. This is a gift scholarship – not a loan. We welcome donations towards funding.

1. Candidates for this award must be MEMBERS in good standing in The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion in New York State and are in their senior year or are graduates of an accredited High School.
2. There will be no limit to the number of applications that any one Squadron, Post or Auxiliary Unit may wish to submit.
3. Applications are mailed to all registered Squadrons; additional applications may be photocopied. Completed applications must be returned to Detachment Headquarters, ATTN: SONS Coordinator, by April 30th.
4. Each application shall be certified by the Detachment Scholarship Chairman.
5. PREVIOUS WINNERS may receive up to three (3) additional annual awards – SIMPLY reapply by completing a new application, No Article is necessary. Years won MUST be entered.

SELECTION PROCEDURES:

1. A Committee of at least five (5) distinguished members of the Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion will serve as judges.
2. A representative of the Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion will present the award at the Detachment Convention.
3. Candidates shall be selected on the following basis: 25% each for: Americanism, Character, Leadership and Scholarship.
4. The decisions of the Selection Committee are final and are published in a Detachment mailing.

SONS COORDINATOR will forward all applications together to the Chairman within one week after the due date.

THE FOLLOWING MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

1. Copy of APPLICANT'S current-year Membership Card.
2. An article written by applicant, consisting of no more than 200 words, subject being: THE CONSTITUTION.
3. A certified transcript of high school or college grades.
4. Listing of extra-curricular activities, participation in civic activities, employment, and number of hours worked per week, paid and volunteer work.
5. (High School Seniors Only) Certificate of acceptance and/or letter stating date you will receive it from the school or college you will attend.

Send by April 30th to:
1304 Park Blvd, Troy, NY 12180 ATTN: SONS Coordinator.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK
ROCCO & VIRGINA CERULLO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name of Applicant_____ Previous Winner? – Years_____

Address _____Date of Birth_____

Home Telephone Number (_____) _____

Father's Name_____ Mother's Name_____

If both parents are deceased, person responsible for your financial support:

_____
(Name & Address) (Relationship)

High School Attended_____
(Name & Address)

Date of Graduation_____ Age at Graduation_____

College or Trade School Applicant expects to attend or is presently attending:

_____
(Name & Address)

Type of program you expect to enter or are presently enrolled in: (Check One)

Two-year Program_____ Four-year Program _____

Other_____

Has application for admission been submitted to college? Yes, ____ No____

Have you been accepted? Yes, ____ No____

What is the fixed cost to each student per semester in the program you plan to enter or are presently attending: $_____

How will the cost of college be financed? (Optional) _____

_____/_____/_____
(Signature of Applicant) (Signature Detachment Scholarship Chairman) (Date)

_____#_____ _____
(Name and Number of Organization) (County)

2026-2027 UNIT EDUCATION REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ UNIT DOES NOT HAVE AN EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

Check activities/programs carried out by Unit members and describe them if checked: (*USE REVERSE SIDE IF NECESSARY.)*

Scholarship promotion program _____ # Veterans School Presentations _____
Give 20 to Education _____ Unit Scholarships given _____
Box Tops for Education _____ Parents as Reading Partners _____
Other (specify) _____
Promoting the Education of Military and their Children _____

Total Volunteers _____ Total # served _____
Total miles driven in providing ALA service_____ Value of Unit scholarships given $_____
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 hour) $_____

As part of your Narrative Report, please include answers to the following questions: (answer on back of report or attach separate page)

- Describe how Veterans in Community Schools programs were presented?
- How did you promote Give 20 to Education?
- How did you participate in American Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week?
- What type of help did the unit give a needy student?
- How did the unit recognize scholarship winners?
- How many scholarship applications were received for Department Scholarships and or National Scholarships?

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ***

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Total**
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated	

5. Scholarships Presented / Awarded by our Unit

Impact Report	**Scholarships**	**Obtain from**	**Total**
Line 21	Number of unit scholarships presented/awarded	***Unit Records***	
Line 22	Total dollar amount of unit scholarships	***Unit Records***	$
Line 23	Total dollar amount donated to department scholarships	***Unit Records***	$

Mail or e-mail a copy of your report to the County Education Chairman
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY EDUCATION REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐ November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone #: _____

County_____ District _____

_____ COUNTY DOES NOT HAVE AN EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

Scholarship promotion program _____ # Veterans School Presentations _____
Give 20 to Education _____ Unit Scholarships given _____
Box Tops for Education _____ Parents as Reading Partners _____
Other (specify) _____
Promoting the Education of Military and their Children _____
Total Volunteers _____ Total # served _____
Total miles driven in providing ALA service_____ Value of Unit scholarships given $_____
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 hour) $_____

As part of your Narrative Report, please include answers to the following questions: (answer on back of report or attach separate page)

- Describe how * Veterans in Community Schools programs were presented?
- How did you promote Give 20 to Education?
- How did you participate in American Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week?
- What type of help did the unit give a needy student?
- How did the unit recognize scholarship winners?
- How many scholarship applications were received for Department Scholarships and or National Scholarships?

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ***

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Total**
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated	

5. Scholarships Presented / Awarded by our Unit

Impact Report	**Scholarships**	**Obtain from**	**Total**
Line 21	Number of unit scholarships presented/awarded	***Unit Records***	
Line 22	Total dollar amount of unit scholarships	***Unit Records***	$
Line 23	Total dollar amount donated to department scholarships	***Unit Records***	$

Mail or E-mail your County Report to the Department Education Chairman

- applications must be filled out on the National website

Charlene Mayville
C: 845-546-1689
nyalaeducation@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Empire Girls State

Department Chairman
Molly McLaughlin
C-585-484-0462
empiregirlsstate@gmail.com

1st Vice Chairman
Sarah Murphy
C: 315-705-3082
egsvicechair@gmail.com

2nd Vice Chairman
Lucille Mozzillo
C: 318-335-9197
egsregistrar@gmail.com

What exactly is ALA Empire Girls State? American Legion Auxiliary units in all 50 states proudly host ALA Girls State, an amazing week of learning, focused on responsible citizenship, leadership, and love for God and Country. It's extremely difficult to describe, "It's been said from the outside looking in, you can't understand it; and from the inside looking out, you can't explain it." It is an educational Americanism program developed to offer a better perspective of the practical government operations and to emphasize the integral part that individuals have within a democratic government. This program allows participants the opportunity to enroll and earn college credits at a rate offered only to Boys State and Girls State participants nationwide following their completion of the week-long program.

Qualified high school juniors only are selected to participate in an amazing week-long educational learning with hands-on workshops focused on leadership, responsible citizenship and the political process designed to create a government from the county to the state level. This mythical 51st state allows students to learn the privileges and responsibilities of leadership and citizenship in a democratic society. ALA Empire Girls State is divided into 10 counties named after famous women. Much like our American government, ALA Empire Girls State has two political parties = Nationalists and Federalists. They are immersed in learning about the political process by electing officials for all levels of state government and actively running a mock government. Political campaigns, debates, and bills are crafted as the government begins to take shape. These young women work tirelessly throughout the week as their participation provides them a greater understanding of their role within a democracy. It also teaches skills that in the future they can use which include how to run a meeting, parliamentary procedures, and Robert's Rules of Order.

With the assistance of the Department Americanism Chairman, 300 high school juniors from across the state will also learn about the POW/MIA ceremony, proper flag etiquette and disposal ceremony and receive information on the ALA poppy during their week at ALA Empire Girls State. Students will participate in the creation and execution of either a flag lowering, raising, or posting ceremony. The citizens will also receive information from Department President Lora Rowe on some of the programs that are important components of our ALA organization.

Assistance from dedicated ALA volunteers ensures the program's nonpartisan governmental, patriotic, and civic objectives are carried out through interactive learning. Though the week is filled with many learning opportunities, there is always time for fun and the formation of long-term friendships.

Two girls are selected from each ALA Girls State program to attend ALA Girls Nation. ALA Girls Nation "senators" meet for a week in Washington, D.C. where they run for political office,

campaign, debate for the passage of legislation, and meet with U.S. Congressmen and Senators from their states. Capping off the week of ALA Girls Nation is a possible meeting with the President of the United States at the White House. This year, ALA Girls Nation is tentatively set for July 17-24,2027(tentative).

Deadline	**Details of Information Due**
Nov. 1st	County chairman must submit the **Quota Commitment Form** from the Plan of Action, www.empiregirlsstate.org, or www.deptny.org websites to ALA EGS *1st Vice Chairman.*
Nov – early	ALA EGS **County Chairman** should immediately distribute mailed, hard-copy materials to the ALA EGS **Unit Chairman** prior to virtual Overview Meeting. DO NOT HOLD!
Nov – mid/late	ALA EGS **Unit and County Chairman** should participate in a virtual meeting via Zoom to review the Fall Packet of Materials, review expectations, and deadlines and to kick off the new ALA EGS year! Details will be shared in the Fall.
No later than January 1st	Online Applications submitted electronically are due **for Central Staff and Counselor** positions. Selected Staff will be notified following the Approval at the April Executive Meeting.
No later than Dec. 15th	Each ALA EGS **Unit Chairman** must contact school(s) about the ALA EGS program and obtain a **list of eligible girls in the top 1/3 in the Junior class**. (Home school students should be included)
Dec. 15th Feb. 22nd	Each ALA EGS **Unit Chairman** gathers a team to conduct interviews between December – February. Units will select their citizen(s) and/or alternate(s) by February28th to attend EGS.
No later than February 28th	Contact the ALA EGS *1st Vice Chairman* if you feel that your Unit/County **will not** be able to fulfill your quota commitment.
March 1st	Designated Citizen/Alternate Paperwork/fees due to the ALA EGS **Unit Chairman.** (The majority of paperwork is completed online).
March 15th	ALA EGS Unit Chairman forward all completed supporting documents, tuition, and fees to ALA EGS **County Chairman.**
March 31st	Citizen and Alternate Transmittal forms with all supporting documentation and one check for tuition/fee payments due to ALA EGS *2nd Vice Chairman / Registrar. Participant registration due- Must be completed online.*
Mid-May – Early June	ALA Empire Girls State Virtual Orientations to be held via Zoom. All **citizens and alternates** must attend. Parents and all ALA EGS Chairmen are encouraged to attend. Information on the virtual Orientations is sent via email in early May to all email addresses provided in the online application.
No later than June 10th	Auxiliary Ads, Legion Family Ads, Business Ads, Citizen Family Ads and Booster sheets due to ALA EGS 1st Vice Chairman.
No later than June 15th	Survival Kit deadline for Parents, Family, and other supporters. ***(Limited to the first 100)*** Due to EGS *1st Vice Chairman.*

ALA EGS QUICK GUIDE FACTS for 2027

1. **Date and Location: Sunday, June 27th – Friday, July 2nd, 2027**
   Suny Brockport SUNY, 350 New Campus Drive Brockport, NY 14420

2. Counties will be informed of their quota by the Department Plan of Action. Copies are also available on the ALA Department of NY website: www.deptny.org or the ALA Empire Girls State website: www.empiregirlsstate.org.

3. **Total payable to American Legion Auxiliary - Department of NY = $450.00.** ALA EGS Citizens / Families will be expected to pay **a $50.00** non-refundable application processing fee for every application received. More information is on the Processing Fee Explanation Page. **Tuition Cost: $500.00** per citizen paid by the sponsoring ALA Unit/Post**.**

4. Application Process: Once selected, citizens and alternates will be responsible for completing **their own <u>online</u> application** from the ALA Empire Girls State website (www.empiregirlsstate.org). Schools and Units should not be completing the applications. Passwords will be provided in the Unit Chairman information packets. Further details regarding this will be provided when application materials are mailed in the Fall and during the virtual ALA EGS Unit and County Chairman Overview meeting in November.

5. Citizens, Alternates and Parents must provide a valid email on the application for communication and PR purposes. ALA EGS Orientation information is distributed via these email addresses in early May.

6. Materials Deadline:
   a. March 1st - Completed supplemental application materials and fees must be to the ALA EGS Unit Chairman/sponsor!
   b. March 15th - Completed supplemental application materials with one tuition/fees check must be to your ALA EGS County Chairman!
   c. March 31st – All Citizens and Alternates must have completed their online application and uploaded all needed documents.
   d. March 31st – Completed supplemental application materials for the entire County with Transmittal Forms and one check should be mailed to the ALA EGS Vice-Chairman/Registrar!

7. **State of the State Ceremony**: It is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 2nd, at 1:00pm. Please encourage parents and families to attend along with any sponsoring units. There is plenty of parking and seating and it is air conditioned. It is the premier part of the program bringing together all of the work of the citizens throughout the week. Encourage attendance. There are hotel rooms available in Brockport for those needing to travel to attend. There is limited housing for bus drivers with requests made by May 1, 2027.

8. There will be **NO EARLY DEPARTURES!**
   <u>Check out FRIDAY, JULY 2ND, 2027 2:30PM TO 5:30 PM</u>

9. Check out the ALA Empire Girls State Website! **www.empiregirlsstate.org** the password for Auxiliary member to access downloadable materials is **GirlsState**
   ****NOTE THIS IS NOT THE SAME LOGIN THAT WILL BE USED FOR CITIZEN APPLICATIONS!**

10. As per ALA National Guidelines**: ALL CITIZENS MUST HAVE A VALID STATE OR GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO ID.** i.e.: NYS DRIVER'S LICENSE. DMV NON-DRIVER ID, or PASSPORT and proof of legal residence in the United States**. School photo IDs will only disqualify them from participating in ALA Girls Nation.**

$50.00 Citizen/Parent
Non-Refundable Application Processing Fee

What is it?

Parents and Citizens will be expected to pay a $50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE Application Processing fee. Checks/Money Orders should be made out the ALA County.

Why are we charging a fee?

Each year we have many students drop out and decide not to go at the last minute. Other departments have indicated that the parent paid fee has dramatically decreased the number of students who drop out of the program.

Paying to apply for many programs or opportunities has become common practice. Other departments charge a Girls State application processing fee of $40-$150. Students pay to apply for college, academic programs, and many other competitive opportunities.

ALA EGS Unit & County Chairman: You will keep the **Candidate Contact Information Form** for ALA Sponsors for your reference. This form is **NOT** sent to the Registrar. This is for you to have contact information for all your candidates as they move through the process.

How will this work?

1. Candidates (Citizens and Alternates) complete their own online application. Supplemental Application materials for Candidates are returned to the Sponsoring Unit/Post **by February 1st, 2027**. Citizens include a $50.00 check/money order (made payable to **your COUNTY AUXILIARY)** and send to the ALA EGS **Unit Chairman**. (Alternates do not include a fee).
2. Units will submit their check for each citizen tuition ($450.00) and the citizen $50.00 non-refundable application processing fees, along with the collected supplemental application materials for both Citizens and Alternates to their ALA EGS **County Chairman** by **March 15, 2027.**
3. The ALA County Treasurer will deposit the Unit tuition payments, and all of the non-refundable application processing fees into their **COUNTY** Auxiliary checking account.
4. The County Treasurer will write ONE CHECK made payable to American Legion Auxiliary Department of NY that will cover the cost of the tuition and non-refundable application processing fees ($500.00) for each of the citizens being sent from that County to the ALA EGS Registrar by **March 31st, 2027**.

_____	**X**	**$500.00**	**=**	_____
Number of County **Citizens**		Tuition Fee + Processing Fee ($450.00 paid by ALA + $50.00 paid by **Citizen)**		Amount to be Sent by Check

ALA EGS COUNTY CHAIRMAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES 2027

1. Once you have read this bulletin, contact each of the ALA Units/Posts in your County confirming their continued sponsorship for the program and financial support of the ALA EGS citizens. **Please note that some quotas have changed from last year and are fulfilled at the County level, not the Unit or Post level!**

2. Complete the 2027 ALA EGS County Quota Form and return it to the ALA EGS 1st Vice Chairman, no later than **November 1st.** The confirmed number of citizens is needed to arrange adequate housing, recruit staff, estimate costs and obtain liability insurance for the program. Please note that if you are interested in sponsoring additional citizens above the indicated quota, please be sure to indicate this on your form and return as soon as possible. Those counties that return this form early will be the first ones that we go back to if we have counties that can't fill their quota.

3. The **2027 ALA EGS Information Packets for ALA EGS Unit and County Chairman** will be sent to the ALA EGS County Chairman in the Fall. Please read the information and distribute the appropriate material to your ALA EGS Unit Chairman immediately. Please note the virtual meeting via Zoom TBA for November for all ALA EGS Unit and County Chairman. **Please adhere to all the deadline dates, especially when supporting documents are due to the ALA EGS Registrar.**

4. When distributing material to your Units, remind your Units that they should be contacting their local schools to partner with them and to provide information about the benefits of the ALA Empire Girls State program. You should also remind the Units that homeschooled students are also eligible. Explain that eligibility requirements include a) young women who are completing their **junior** year of high school; b) In the top **1/3** of their class; c) be of high moral character, have leadership abilities and take pride in America; d) have an interest in government, the political process or how a democratic society works.

5. Remind your ALA EGS Unit Chairmen it is the **responsibility of the unit to select the citizen**, not the High School. Enlisting the help of school guidance counselors, former ALA EGS citizens, and using the recruitment video/PR video will be an asset to your selection process. This is also a great opportunity to invite former ALA EGS Citizens to join your Auxiliary!

6. **Review every document carefully**! Please be sure that **ALL** information is completed as requested. If you have any questions, please be sure to call the ALA EGS 2nd Vice Chairman. Incomplete forms cause the entire registration process to be delayed.

7. **A CITIZEN TRANSMITTAL FORM and an ALTERNATE TRANSMITTAL FORM** is to be submitted with all supplemental application material. It's a suggestion to make a copy for your records before mailing.

8. Obtain one check from the ALA County treasurer for both tuition and Application processing fees for the number of citizens being sent from the County. Remember this number should not exceed the quota for your county as listed on the quota form. This check, Citizen and Alternate transmittal forms with supplemental application materials are to be **received by the ALA EGS Registrar by March 31st.**

9. **All citizens and alternates must participate in an online Orientation program.** Your citizens **and alternates** need to be prepared to get the most out of this program**!** If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call the ALA Empire Girls State Team.

10. Citizens and Alternates must complete an online application with uploaded documents. They will also submit supplemental application materials to the ALA Unit Chairman by February 1st. ALA EGS Unit Chairmen must forward all completed documentation to the ALA EGS County chairman by March 15th. ALA EGS County Chairman must submit all supporting documents and transmittal form to the ALA EGS registrar by March 31st.

ALA EGS UNIT CHAIRMAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES 2027

1. After receiving this bulletin, contact your ALA EGS County Chairman to confirm your unit's continued paid sponsorship for the current year. The ALA EGS County Chairman will need to complete the 2027 ALA EGS County Quota form and return it to the ALA EGS Vice Chairman, by no later than November 1st.

2. Your ALA EGS County Chairman will receive the ALA EGS information packet in the Fall. Review the 2027 program information and eligibility rules **thoroughly and carefully**. You must be familiar with the program to be able to answer questions from the school administrators, candidates, and parents.

3. Take the material to your school contact (generally the Guidance Counselor or Principal). Review the eligibility requirements with them. Leave your name and telephone number for any questions that may arise. Keep in touch with them to obtain back the list of qualified and interested candidates (to include any home-schooled students) on or before **December 15th.**

4. Organize a team of Unit Auxiliary members to assist in the interview process. After obtaining the list of candidates, you will need to contact and set up an in-person interview with each candidate. It is the ALA Units responsibility to interview the candidates. Remember this can be done in a variety of ways! Previous ALA EGS citizens make an excellent addition to your interview team.

5. After interviewing the candidates, it is up to the ALA Unit members to make the final selection! Remember, it's **not** up to the schools to select your citizen(s) or alternates(s) – **it is up to your ALA Unit**. Notify all interviewees of the citizens and alternates selected. Congratulate any not selected on their nomination to be interviewed.

6. Provide the citizen and the alternate with the appropriate online links and password so they can complete the online application. Set up a time to review the additional supporting application paperwork that must be submitted if necessary. Request they return **them to you by March 1st.**

7. From the selected Citizens only, collect the $50.00 non-refundable application processing fee from parent/student. Make sure the check/money order is made out to your ALA County. This money will be given to the County Treasurer to be deposited.

8. **Review all supporting application documentation carefully**! Please be sure that ALL information is completed as requested. **Submit the supporting application documentation to your ALA EGS County Chairman no later than March 15th.**

9. Instruct your ALA Unit Treasurer to remit the tuition ($450.00) + the application fee checks to the ALA County Treasurer for your number of sponsored citizens (not alternates) – **this must accompany the completed supporting documentation**.

10. All citizens and alternates must participate in a virtual Orientation program via Zoom. Your citizens and alternates need to be prepared to get the most out of this program. Parents are encouraged to join.

11. **Publicity is needed to promote this program! Please try to get local coverage and provide the opportunity for your citizens to address school assemblies and community groups, as well as unit and county meetings upon their return from ALA Empire Girls State.**

12. **The sponsoring ALA Unit and or ALA County may provide the citizen with additional spending money so the citizen may purchase ALA EGS apparel, souvenirs, and snacks. It was also suggested to consider purchasing additional uniform t-shirts for your citizens at the discounted rate before June 1st.**

ONLINE CANDIDATE (Citizens and Alternates) REGISTRATION PROCESS:

(www.empiregirlsstate.org)

We will continue using a digital platform for our Candidate Registration process. The process contains 3 parts.

1. We require two forms to download, print, complete and return to verify the applicant's eligibility to participate: ALA EGS Medical Certification Form and the High School Information form. **These forms should be returned the ALA Unit Sponsor by March 1st.**

2. The second part of the application is a series of documents that requires the parent(s) /guardian(s) and the candidate to sign. This part of the application MUST be completed BEFORE completing the third part or starting the online registration form, as you will upload a copy of these documents with your signatures in the online registration form. Download and print a copy of each of the 5 pages: Parent Waiver Form, Media Consent Release Form, Acceptance Certificate and Citizen's Pledge, Consent to Medical Treatment Form and the Medical Release Form.

3. In the third part of the application, Citizens/Alternates will complete the 2027 Candidate Registration Form online. This application has 7 pages. Please have a parent/guardian with you as you complete the forms. It should take about 30-45 minutes to complete. Before beginning the process, you will need: a headshot photo of the attendee for ID badges, the name and contact information (email and phone number) of your local newspaper/newspaper editor, the name and contact information (email and phone number) of your high school guidance counselor and high school principal, a picture of the front and back of the attendee's Health insurance card, the 5 documents from Step 1 completed and signed.

4. Please do not start the application until all this information is gathered. Once started, it must be completed in one sitting– as there is not a save function, nor able to go back and review information. Please make sure to click Submit when finished.

5. ***To facilitate future correspondence, **school-issued email addresses must NOT be used** during the registration process. (These get blocked when the ALA EGS Team send an email to them from outside your school domain).

More information will be provided in the Fall mailing.

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Empire Girls State

COUNTY QUOTAS FOR 2026-2027							
Albany	5	Franklin	0	Oneida	8	Schuyler	0
Allegany	2	Fulton	0	Onondaga	7	Seneca	3
Bronx	1	Genesee	5	Ontario	6	Steuben	9
Broome	3	Greene	4	Orange	13	Suffolk	30
Cattaraugus	10	Hamilton	0	Orleans	2	Sullivan	1
Cayuga	4	Herkimer	5	Oswego	4	Tioga	1
Chautauqua	10	Jefferson	5	Otsego	8	Tompkins	2
Chemung	2	Kings	1	Putnam	3	Ulster	6
Chenango	4	Lewis	2	Queens	7	Warren	3
Clinton	2	Livingston	10	Rensselaer	5	Washington	5
Columbia	1	Madison	8	Richmond	1	Wayne	5
Cortland	3	Monroe	8	Rockland	2	Westchester	7
Delaware	5	Montgomery	1	St. Lawrence	1	Wyoming	2
Dutchess	7	Nassau	14	Saratoga	8	Yates	2
Erie	10	New York	2	Schenectady	2		
Essex	1	Niagara	10	Schoharie	2	**TOTAL**	**300**

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND ***RETURN BY NOVEMBER 1, 2026***

☐ **We will be able to fill our 2027 ALA Empire Girls State quota as assigned above.**

☐ **Yes! We would love to send an additional Citizen, and we have funds available**

☐ **We will NOT be able to fill our 2027 ALA Empire Girls State quota as assigned above.**
We will be sending _____ citizens instead.

2026-2027 County Empire State Chairman: (Please Print)

Name: _____County: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

Phone Number (Day): (___) _____ Phone Number (Night): (___) _____

☐ Yes! Share my information with citizens and schools interested in the ALA EGS program on the web

☐ No! Please do not share my information on the website.

Please email completed form to: Sarah Murphy, ALA EGS 1st Vice-Chairman,
Email: EGSViceChair@gmail.com

2026-2027 UNIT ALA EMPIRE GIRLS STATE REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ **November 1, 2026** ☐ **April 1, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____**Phone:** _____

Unit: _____**County:** _____**District:** _____

Unit does not have an ALA EGS Chairman _____

1. Number of High Schools participating: _____ Unit ALA EGS quota: _____
2. Number interviewed _____# Citizens selected: _____# Alternates selected ____
3. Number of school officials that worked with your Unit:
   ____ Principals ____ Counselors ____ Other
4. Number of Auxiliary members participating in interviews_____
5. Number of previous Girls State citizens participating in interviews _____
6. Number of hours spent on the ALA Empire Girls State Program _____
7. Number of new members recruited this year that were previous ALA EGS citizens _____
8. Types of recognition for your ALA Empire Girls State citizen and number attending:

   Dinner #: _____ Unit/County Meeting #: _____ Other (Identify) _____
9. How do you raise funds to sponsor girls to attend ALA Empire Girls State? _____
10. Types of publicity used: _____
11. Value of the volunteer hour is $36.14

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

3. Our ALA Service for Youth

Impact Report Line#	**Service for Children & Youth**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 11	Total hours for ALA Girls State	*Unit Form Line 11*	
Line 12	Total dollars spent for ALA Girls State	*Unit Form Line 12*	$

Mail completed form to: **Your ALA Empire Girls State County Chairman**!

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY ALA EMPIRE GIRLS STATE REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

County: _____District _____

County Does Not Have ALA EGS Chairman _____

1. Number of Units participating: _____ 2. Number of high schools participating: _____
2. Number of ALA Empire Girls State citizens: _____
3. Number of Auxiliary members participating in interviews: _____
4. Total number of hours spent on the ALA Empire Girls State Program _____
5. Number of school officials that worked with the Units:
   ____ Principals ____ Counselors ____ Other
6. Number of new members recruited this year that were previous ALA EGS Citizens____
7. Types of recognition by Units and number attending:

   Dinner #: _____ Unit/County Meeting #: _____ Other (Identify)_____
8. Types of publicity by Units_____
   _____
9. How did units/county raise funds to sponsor citizens to attend ALA EGS?
   _____
10. Value of the volunteer hour is $36.14

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

3. Our ALA Service for Youth

Impact Report Line#	**Service for Children & Youth**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 11	Total hours for ALA Girls State	*Unit Form Line 11*	
Line 12	Total dollars spent for ALA Girls State	*Unit Form Line 12*	$

Keep a copy for your records.

Send completed form to: Department Empire Girls State Chairman.

Molly McLaughlin
C-585-484-0462
empiregirlsstate@gmail.com

ALA EMPIRE GIRLS STATE
STAFF JOB DESCRIPTIONS

ALL STAFF: Must be able to quickly walk an average of 4-5 miles a day and lift boxes as needed. Assist with nightly supervision of students late at night. Must have basic computer skills and smart phone skills. Many parts of the program and communication are digital. It is necessary to conduct criminal background checks on all staff. The program will provide you with meals, board, and mileage reimbursement. Staff are provided one staff polo shirt. Additional apparel may be purchased.

ALA EGS SECRETARY:
Sets up and runs the ALA EGS office and provides office coverage until midnight with Coordinator of Merchandise and Apparel. Working knowledge of Google Suite and Microsoft Office. Writes and publishes the daily ALA EGS Gazette. Assists with apparel sales and inventory. Helps prepare bank deposits daily. Packs and inventories office at end of session. Assists Chairman with other duties as needed.

COORDINATOR OF MERCHANDISE AND APPAREL:
Sets up ALA EGS store with apparel and merchandise. Able to lift 20-50 lbs. and be active on your feet. Basic computer skills, point of sale software and credit card processing. Opens store to citizens for memorabilia purchases until midnight with ALA EGS Secretary. Moves boxes of merchandise, conducts inventory. Assists ALA EGS Secretary as needed. Arranges sale of merchandise at State of the State ceremony.

COORDINATOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, ELECTIONS, CURRICULUM AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE:
Working knowledge of Google Suite. Responsible for explaining elections, election process, serves as liaison for Political instructors. Assists Political instructors with curriculum development. Provide training to staff on duties as Committee advisor. Assists with nightly supervision of students late at night. May be a political party advisor.

NURSES (2):
May be an RN/LPN/EMT licensed in NYS. Sets up medical center. Reviews medical forms for completeness and identifies special needs of citizens, including dietary needs. Available 24/7 to citizens and staff. Logs citizen visits, interventions, and outcomes. Communicates with family in case of emergency. Triages and transport to urgent care if needed. Conducts final inventory and packs medical center at completion of session. Some heavy lifting required.

COORDINATORS OF MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY (2):
Create ID badges for Citizens and Staff, compile county photo Composites, take pictures of events throughout week. Upload to Cloud storage. Assist in developing yearbook. Perform regular updates to ALA EGS blog and website. Email updates via newsletter to parents and families throughout week. Create State of the State slide show. Knowledge of social media, PowerPoint, and/or other image editing programs.

ALA EMPIRE GIRLS STATE
STAFF JOB DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

COUNSELORS (20): Counselors should be 18 years of age and up for this busy and physically demanding week of challenges and personal rewards as a volunteer. Work in conjunction with a co-counselor to assure citizens of a county (28-36 citizens) accomplish objectives of the program. Mentor citizens in parliamentary procedure; encourage becoming involved in the program by actively participating. Overseeing committee work. Leads assigned committee to accomplish writing of bills and lobbying with other committees. Enforce code of conduct and timelines.

POLITICAL INSTRUCTORS (2): Political Instructor and Assistant Political Instructor
Facilitate learning sessions on government and the political process, work closely with the Coordinator of Academic Affairs, assist with Legislative session.

WELLNESS COORDINATOR: Mental Health professional such as a school psychologist, counselor, social worker. Coordinate with ALA EGS Chairmen Team to arrange for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training for staff and citizens.

The link to the online **2027 ALA EGS Staff Application** is located on our website: https://www.empiregirsstate.org under the Leadership Team tab. All information is submitted electronically.

If you have any questions, please contact ALA EGS Chairman
Molly McLaughlin
C-585-484-0462
Email: empiregirlsstate@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Finance Committee

Department Chairman
Mary Lou Platt
H: 607-638-9525
C: 607-287-9883
nyalafinancechair@gmail.com

Members
Sally Johnston
C: 518-353-1517
nyalafinance1@gmail.com

Deborah Morris
C:315-225-4631
Nyalafinance2@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the national Finance Committee is to oversee the development and implementation of general department financial policy subject to approval or ratification by the National Executive Committee, and to provide oversight of budgeted funds in the budget and report any significant variance to the National Executive Committee.

American Legion Auxiliary Department or Unit Finance Committee

- The department or Unit Finance Committee's Purpose:
- Oversight of the general financial policy of the organization
- Preparation of the annual budget
- Supervision of the expenditures under that budget

Finance Committee Roles and Responsibilities

- Asset Development and Protection/Fundraising/Budgeting:
- The department or unit may adopt targets for expected accomplishments — and suggest performance measures to evaluate progress toward those targets which are outlined in the annual budget development.
- Finance Committees often focus only on the current year's budgeting process and forget to look three to five years ahead. The committee should reflect on trends of the recent past and how those items can impact current and future planning.
- Each department or unit may want to replicate this process of setting goals through a long-range plan. For the Finance Committee to advise the organization on how to acquire and spend resources, it would be helpful if it is tied to those goals.
- The department or unit may measure where it is now and set goals to strive to reach the benchmarks for expenses and to broaden the sources of potential income streams.
- At each of your finance meetings, the progress toward those annual and multi-year goals should be reviewed.
- Remember: Members need to understand and be able to measure the progress of the organization through reports of the Finance Committee.
- At a minimum, key financial Indicators need to include the benchmarks expected by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and nonprofit watchdog organizations. There are three key expense benchmarks:

- Program Services (expenditures related to the organization's primary mission and purpose): the target is 65-75%.
- Management and General Administrative (expenditures spent on managing the operations of the organization): the target is 10-15%.
- Fundraising (expenditures spent on raising additional funds for the organization's purpose and mission expenses, i.e., grants, planned giving, endowments, direct mail campaigns, etc.): the target is 5-10%.
- Potential donors expect the majority of the funds collected by a nonprofit organization are designated to supporting the mission of the organization through its programs.
- On the revenue side, setting targets is more difficult because there are no specific industry benchmarks other than to have a variety of revenue streams that reduce your dependence on any one source.
- The American Legion Auxiliary is a membership organization, so we rely on member dues to cover our expenses.
- By bringing in other resources such as grants and donations, corporate sponsorships, special events and bequests, we can lower the dependence on dues and/or reserves alone to meet our obligations.
- The ability to build up financial reserves is important for the future to ensure resources are available to maintain operations of the department or unit if needed. The recommended amount of reserves/savings is 2.5 times the annual budget of the organization. For example, an organization with a $10,000 budget would try to maintain $25,000 in reserves for emergencies and have a plan to replenish when withdrawals are made.

Governing Board Delegated Powers

- Financial Reporting/Audits:
- The Finance Committee should share the financial data with the members who are the investors of the organization and who have a legal right to know how their investments are being managed.
- The Finance Committee makes recommendations to the governing body of the department or the unit, the Department Executive Committee, or the Unit Executive Committee/Unit membership and that body is responsible for the actual policy decisions.
- The Department Executive Committee or Unit Executive Committee/Unit membership needs to receive clear, timely, and accurate information regarding the financial status of the organization at each of their meetings and at additional times as needed.
- The Finance Committee ensures that all tax reporting is completed within appropriate timeframes for federal, state, and local jurisdictions. The IRS requires small charities to submit an annual electronic report, known as a Form 990. This is a requirement for every department and unit. The Form 990-N, entitled the Electronic Notice for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ (and also known as the e-Postcard) is required of charities whose annual gross receipts are $50,000 or less. www.irs.gov
- The Pension Protection Act also requires the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years. This requirement applies to small tax-exempt organizations and those filing the e-Postcard.
- The Finance Committee is given an audit for review, while the outside auditor presents the audited financials to the governing body of the department or unit.

County Treasurer:

It shall be the responsibility of each County to collect payment by informing the units to pay their taxes to the County. One check should be sent from the County Treasurer for the total units times the number of units in your county as of September 30th. Payment is due on or before November 1st.

Bonding:	**$ 6.00 for each unit**
Department Day	**$14.00 for each unit**
Total due:	**$20.00 for each unit**

Past Presidents' Parley Dues is $5.00 for each Past President in the unit, county, district, or department and should be sent directly to the Department Office by January 30th. (Please note this not a mandatory fee, it is voluntary)

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Checks issued by the Department to Units, Counties or Districts need to be cashed in a timely manner.

Please be sure to return to the Department Office your Unit Audit/Data form by December 31.

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York Inc.
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033
(518) 463-1162

Lora A. Rowe
Department President

Barbara A. Corker
Department Secretary

General Accounts:

Total Remittance: $_____

Auxiliary Emergency Fund $_____

Date Remitted: _____

Bonding $_____
($6.00 per unit)

Department Day Fund $_____
($14.00 per unit)

Check#_____

Chaplain $_____

Signed: _____
Unit/County Treasurer

Empire Girls State $_____

Contact Number/email: _____

Children & Youth:
Child Well-Being Foundation $_____

Children of Warriors: $_____

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation:

Past President's Parley Dues $5.00 per member (not mandatory)

Please specify where your donation should be applied:

Hospitalized Female Veterans $_____

Scholarship in the Medical Field $_____

National creative Arts Festival $_____

Fisher House $_____

Stratton (Hoptel) $_____

NY Warrior Family Assistance $_____

2026-2027 Department President's Project $_____
NY Creative Arts

Please note that ALL prior Department President's projects should be sent directly to the charity.

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
History

Department Chairman

Anne Baglio
C: 716-432-1354
E-mail: nyalahistorian@gmail.com

Responsibilities of an American Legion Auxiliary Historian

The recording of the American Legion Auxiliary's history at all levels (unit, district/county/council, department, and national) is important so that everyone will know who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Other responsibilities of a historian are:

- Assist in developing a system to archive important communications such as newsletters, handbooks, guidebooks, brochures, and program information
- Participate in and promote the "Members Remember" history project
- Work with the Junior Activities chairman to promote the History Patch available to Junior members in 9th – 12th grades
- Encourage Senior and Junior historians to participate in the Veterans History Project

Important Dates:

- March – National Women's History Month

The heart of any organization's history is in its records – items that officers, members, directors, staff, and volunteers have produced and compiled over the years. They provide unique testimony to the achievements of an organization.

DEPARTMENT HISTORY AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

THE SALLY A. JOHNSTON AWARD: To the Unit and County Historian submitting the best "Pictorial History Book."

Department Award - To the Unit Historian submitting the best narrative "Unit History."

Department Award - To the County Historian submitting the best narrative "County History."

Department Award - To the Junior Historian submitting the best History for an organized junior group-Unit or County.

National Historian Awards

1. Best Department Senior History
2. Best Department Junior History
3. Certificate presented to each department Senior historian who forwards a copy of a veteran's history using the Veterans History Project
4. Certificate presented to each department Senior historian who participates in the "Member's Remember" history project
5. Certificate presented to each department Junior historian who forwards a copy of veteran's history using the Veterans History Project
6. Certificate presented to each department Junior historian who helps Senior members record their Auxiliary memories for the "Member's Remember" history project

July 1st – Senior and Junior Department histories are to be submitted to your respective National Division Vice President

A. National Toomey Trophy: Engraved plaque presented to the department Senior historian submitting the best department history.
B. Division Certificate of Merit (5 overall awards): Presented to each department Senior historians who submit the best department histories in each of the five divisions.
C. Letter from the National Historian for participation: Presented to each department Senior historian who submits a department history for competition.

July 1st – Senior and Junior Department histories are to be submitted to your respective National Division Vice President

Go to the National website for complete rules for the national awards

Rules for Unit, County and Junior Historians
(Be sure to follow all the directions to avoid disqualifications)

RULES AND SCORE SHEET (RUBRIC) FOR DEPARTMENT SENIOR HISTORY

Division_____**Department**_____

Department Historian Name_____
First **Last**
Department Historian Address_____
Street
City, State, Zip_____

1. Introduction (10 scoring points) **Points**_____

1. Title Page
   a. Department History of _____
   b. Name of Department Historian
   c. Date: Current administrative Year
2. Forward or Dedication
3. Photograph of Department President (optional) – 5x7 in black and white or color
4. Prayer
5. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
6. First verse of "The Star-Spangled Banner"
7. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

II. Historical Content (70 scoring points) **Points**_____

1. List of elected and or appointed Honorary Department Officers for current administrative year
2. List of Department Chairmen or committee appointments for current year
3 List of National Officers and appointed committee members from your department for current year
4. List of Department or National Awards received at the previous National Convention
5. The History shall be written as a factual narrative beginning with the current installation of Department Officers at Department Convention and ending with the summary of year-end reports and closing events for the administrative year
6. The signature of the Department Historian should immediately follow the final paragraph of the history
7. Index (optional)

III. Appearance (10 scoring points) **Points**_____

1. Auxiliary seal centered on the cover or a regular binder with imprint seal
2. Paper: plain white, 8 ½ by 11 in.
3. Cover: Soft cover binder for loose-leaf paper, preferably blue with 2.5 in gold for American page setup
4. **Margins:** Left and right should be 1.25in.; Top and bottom margins should be 1 inch
5. **Pagination:** Page numbers should begin on the first page of the Historian Content. They should center and be placed 0.5in. from the bottom of the page.
6. **Spacing:** Double spaced with the exception of the introductory pages (i.e., Title Page, Forward or Dedication, photograph of the Department President, Prayer, and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, first verse of "Star Spangled Banner" and Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary, which should be centered in the middle of the page. Paragraphs may be indented or in block form.
7. **Text:** 12-point font, Times New Roman or Arial style font.

8. Computer preferred however a typewritten or handwritten history is permissible. If typewritten or handwritten, the page set should not vary from what is required of computer users.

IV. Arrangement (10 scoring points) **Points_____**

1. Written in third person
2. Clear, concise language with correct spelling
3. No decorations, computer graphics, pen, or ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, or newspaper clippings
4. Be original and unique in thought and presentation

V. Deadline
Department Histories MUST BE RECEIVED by this Department Historian by May 1, to be eligible for judging.

TOTAL POINTS_____

RULES AND SCORE SHEET (RUBIC) FOR DEPARTMENT JUNIOR HISTORY

Division_____Department_____

Department Historian's Name_____
First **Last**
address

City, State, Zip_____

I. Introduction (10 scoring points) **Points_____**

1. Title Page
a. Department History of _____
b. Name of Department Historian_____
c. Date: Current Administrative Year_____
2. Forward or Dedication
3. Photograph of Department Historian Junior President (optional 5x7 in. black & white or color)
4. Prayer
5. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
6. First verse of the "Star Spangled Banner"
7. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

II. Historical Content (70 scoring points) **Points_____**

1. List of elected and /or appointed Honorary Department Junior Officers for current year
2. List of Honorary Department Junior Chairman or committee appointments for current year
3. List of Honorary National Juniors Officers and appointed committee members from your department for current year
4. List of Department or National Junior Award received at the previous National Junior Convention
5. The History shall be written as a factual narrative beginning with the Installation of Department Officers at Department Convention and ending with the summary of end-year reports and closing events for the administrative year
6. The signature of the Honorary Department Junior should immediately follow the final paragraph of the history
7. Index (optional)

III. Appearance (10 Scoring points) **Points_____**

1. Cover: Soft cover binder for loose-leaf paper, preferably blue with 2.5 in gold-foil for American Legion Auxiliary seal centered on the cover or a regulation binder with imprinted seal
2. Paper: Plain, white 8 ½ by 11 in

3. Page Setup:
a. Margins - Left and right margins should be 1.25 in.; top and bottom margins should be 1 in.
b. Pagination – Page numbers should begin on the first page of the Historical content. They should be centered and placed 0.5 in. from the bottom of the page.
4. Spacing: Double-spaced with the exception of the introductory pages (i.e., Title Page, Forward or Dedication, Photograph of Honorary Department Junior Historian, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, first verse of "The Star-Spangled Banner and the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary) which shall be centered in the middle of the page. Paragraphs may be indented or in block form.
5. Text 12-point font, Times New Roman or Arial style font
6. Technology: Computer preference, however a handwritten history is permissible. If handwritten, the page setup should not vary from what is required of computer users.

IV. Arrangement (10 scoring points) **Points _____**

1. Written in narrative form, but not necessarily in third person
2. Clear, concise language with correct spelling
3. No decorations, computer graphics, pen or ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, or newspaper clippings
4. Be original and unique in thought and presentation

V. Deadline:
Junior Department Historians **Must Be Received** by this Department Historian **NO LATER** THAN May 1, to be eligible for judging.

TOTAL POINTS_____

RULES FOR PICTORIAL HISTORY BOOK

1. General Appearance
***** A purchased Auxiliary photo album, with Auxiliary seal may be used or you may use a loose-leaf binder with the American Legion Auxiliary seal attached to the center of the front cover.

2. Contents
* Title page – Centered – Department of New York, District, County, Unit Name, and number of junior groups. Include the name and address of the historian submitting the document, juniors should include age.
* A picture of the Unit or County President with the name under the picture
*****Group pictures of Unit, junior group, or County Officers, identified by name under the picture**.**
***** Descriptions of activities of the past year, including pictures, programs, etc. with identifying names under each picture.
*No newspaper clippings will be allowed for this category. Books containing clippings will be disqualified.
*Counties should judge all Unit and Junior Historian submissions and submit only one (1) Junior and only one (1) Senior Unit history for judging at the Department level. County Historian should also be submitted to the Department for judging**.**

All History Books should be submitted to the Department Chairman no later than May 1.

2026-2027 UNIT HISTORIAN REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

Unit: _____County_____District_____

_____ Unit Does Not have a Historian

Check the Activities / Programs that your Unit carried out:

_____ Retain records (minutes, treasurer, and correspondence)
_____ Document events through photos
_____ Retain Newspaper Articles and other Publicity
_____ Created a Picture History
_____ Created a Written History

Will your Unit celebrate its special anniversary this year?
_____

_____

How do you plan to celebrate it?
_____

_____
Has your Unit received any special awards or recognition during this period? Please describe
_____

_____
Please use the back of this form to provide more details about projects in your Unit

Value of the volunteer hour is $36.14

Impact Numbers
4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Unit Historian send copy of this report to your County Historian
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY HISTORIAN REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____Email_____

County_____District_____

Number of Units in County _____Number of Units Reporting _____

_____ County does not have a Historian

Check the Activities / Programs that the Units carried out:

_____ Retain records (minutes, treasurer, and correspondence)
_____ Document events through photos
_____ Retain Newspaper Articles and other Publicity
_____ Created a Picture History
_____ Created a Written History

Did any Unit celebrate a special anniversary this year? _____

How did they celebrate it? _____

Did any Unit receive any special awards or recognition during this report period? Please describe. _____

_____

_____

Value of the volunteer hour is $36.14

Impact Numbers

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

County Historian send a copy of this report to the Department Historian
Keep a copy for your records

Anne Baglio
716-432-1354
nyalahistorian@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Junior Activities

Department Chairman
Nicole Ross
C: 631-703-6353
E-mail: nyalajractivities@gmail.com

The Eastern Division Junior Meeting will be in Albany, NY on January 30th, 2027. Please check the website for more information.

Purpose: The purpose of the Junior Activities Committee is to inspire active participation in members aged 17 and under so they become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.

Inspire active participation in members age 17 and under so they will become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.

- Engage Junior members in activities that support the American Legion Auxiliary mission:
  - Engage in poppy activities that may include making poppy posters, telling the poppy story, and distributing poppies with the assistance of senior members.
  - Promote Americanism through practicing correct flag etiquette and respect.
  - Organize and participate in service projects.
  - Offer help to military families and help military kids entering a new school.
  - Involve Junior members in helping support the needs of veterans in VA hospitals and outreach facilities with handwritten cards, thank-you cards, mementoes, and supplies.
- Engage Junior members in leadership training:
  - Shadow senior member officers at meetings and hold an appropriate unit office.
  - Post colors at senior meetings, conferences, and conventions.
  - Lead opening ceremonies (the Pledge, prayers, National Anthem, ALA Preamble).
  - Shadow senior committee chairs and assist with their program plans.
  - Promote the ALA scholarship benefits of remaining a member.
  - Encourage Juniors to attend their ALA Girls State program the summer between their junior and senior years of high school.

Build the Junior Activities program one member at a time by giving Junior members a voice and opportunity to participate.

- Plan mission-related activities that are interesting and inspiring to Juniors.
- Participate in Wreaths Across America Day by volunteering to lay wreaths at local cemeteries.
- Hold graduation ceremonies to recognize Juniors who will move to ALA senior membership status.
- Pay first year of senior membership to encourage retention.
- Share information about the ALA's scholarship programs
  - Member Loyalty Scholarship
  - Spirit of Youth Scholarship
  - Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship
  - Samsung Scholarships
- Pair older Juniors with less experienced Juniors to promote mentorship.

Promote and encourage Junior participation in the ALA's national Junior Member of the Year award.

- There will be five division Junior Members of the Year (ages 14-17).
- From those five division winners, a national Junior Member of the Year will be chosen.
- Four division winners will receive a $1,000 scholarship. The national winner will receive a $5,000 scholarship, plus invited to the ALA's National Convention.
- All five division winners will receive a citation plaque, plus an invitation to a national Junior meeting.
- This scholarship is to reward ALA Junior members who are contributing to the organization and our mission, with a long-term goal of increasing Junior participation.

Promote and encourage Junior participation in the ALA's national Rising Star Junior award.

- There will be five division Rising Star Juniors for members ages 8-13.
- All five division winners will receive a citation plaque, plus an invitation to a national Junior meeting.
- This award is to recognize younger ALA Junior members who are contributing to the organization and our mission, with a long-term goal of increasing Junior participation.

Promote and encourage Junior participation in the ALA Patch Program to teach them about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

- Work on the Patch Program at unit meetings. Include senior members to educate Juniors about the importance of participation in the Patch Program and to learn about ALA programs.
- Encourage Juniors who are unable to attend unit meetings to work on the Patch Program at home.
- Work with Sons of The American Legion (SAL) squadron leaders to inform them of the opportunity for young SAL members to participate in the ALA Patch Program.
- All Juniors and SAL members attending a National Junior meeting will earn a National Junior Meeting Patch to acknowledge what they have learned at the meeting.

Make Junior meetings fun and informative.

- Explore mission service and how they can impact our mission at each meeting.
- Encourage friendships and mentoring by planning fun team-building activities (games, learning Junior songs, etc.) and/or provide age-appropriate crafts.
- Highlight the numerous ALA learning opportunities available to members in the ALA Academy, including the ALA Juniors eLearning Course.

DEPARTMENT JUNIOR ACTIVITIES AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

THE MARY LOU PLATT AWARD: To the Unit, County or District advisor with the most outstanding report on her junior activities emphasizing the American Legion Auxiliary programs.

2026-2027 NATIONAL JUNIOR ACTIVITIES AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. The narrative can also be the department chair's report. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Member Award: Junior Member of the Year

- One national JMOY will win a $5,000 scholarship and a trip to the ALA's National Convention.
- Four division JMOY winners will receive a $1,000 scholarship.
- Nominees must have been a junior member at the start of the current ALA administrative year.
- Juniors must be at least in eighth or eighth-grade equivalent and may win only once.
- Juniors may be nominated by any member, unit, or department.
- The narrative should detail the Junior nominee's ALA participation and activities during the past year. Document with photographs, screenshots, and other evidence of Junior's ALA participation and activities.
- All entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.
- **National Junior Member of the Year Awards Form Link**: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Junior Activities Program (per division)

Presented: One unit in each division.

Materials and guidelines:

- Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words that includes specific examples of how the unit involved Junior members as part of their unit's programs.
- Should include high-resolution action photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Department Award: Best Department Junior Activities Program (per division)

Presented to: One department in each division.

Materials and guidelines:

- Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words that includes examples of how the department chair shared information with departments about the Junior Activities program; may include the department chair's report.
- Should include action (high-resolution) photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.
- **National Awards Form Link**: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Honorary Junior Officers
ALA Department of New York 2026-2027

Honorary Junior Dept. President	Jaedyn Vernacotola	Steuben County, 7th Dist.
Honorary Jr. Vice President	Ailie Hagerty	Oneida County, 5th Dist.
Junior Secretary	Serena Forest	Monroe County, 7th Dist.
Treasurer	Serena Forest	Monroe County, 7th Dist.
Junior Chaplain	Rilie Hagerty	Oneida County, 5th Dist.
Junior Historian	Ziva Yerdon	Montgomery County, 4th Dist.
Junior Sgt. At Arms	Adelle Colllins	Tioga County, 6th Dist.

EASTERN DIVISION NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING WILL BE IN ALBANY, NY
January 30, 2027

2026-2027 UNIT JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____Phone: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District_____

_____ Unit does not have a Juniors Chairman

Check the activities / programs performed by the Junior members of your Unit

_____Held regular Junior business meeting

_____Participated in Pocket Flag Project

_____Helped develop and maintain a website

_____Volunteer at VAMC

_____Conduct a Cookie Pack for troops or Local Veterans

_____Increased awareness of Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship

_____Promoting Americanism

_____Assisted Senior member Projects

_____Operation Military Kids

_____Attended Senior meeting

_____Held a membership workshop

_____Service to Veterans

_____# of Juniors in Unit

_____# of Active Juniors

_____# of Veterans Served

____Total hours Juniors volunteered

Total $value of volunteer hours (total hours x $36.14) _____Total miles driven _____

Total $ value of goods and materials donated $_____

Grand Total $value of hours + goods and materials $_____

_____Junior members attended the Eastern Division Junior Meeting in Albany, NY on January 30th, 2027.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

- How did the unit promote the Patch Program?
- What are the various service projects in which Juniors were involved?
- What type of volunteer hours did Junior members perform?
- What ways did senior members mentor the Junior members?
- How does the unit plan to increase Junior member participation in meetings?
- Please include pictures and news articles showing Juniors involved in their activities.
- Describe Projects/activities of Junior Members.

Juniors' hours volunteered, expenses, and donations made which are reportable on the Impact Report Forms, should be combined with those of the Senior members of the Unit or County and reported on the applicable UNIT and COUNTY reports. Separate Junior activities supporting Junior membership and programs should NOT be reported on the Impact Report Forms

Send to your County Junior Activities Chairman **Keep a copy for your records**

2026-2027 COUNTY JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

County: _____District: _____

No. of Units in County_____ No. of Units Reporting_____

_____ County does not have a Junior Activities Chairman

Check Activities/programs carried out by Junior groups in your county:

_____Held regular Junior business meeting

_____Promoting Americanism

_____Participated in Pocket Flag Project

_____Assisted Senior member Projects

_____Helped develop and maintain a website

_____Operation Military Kids

_____Volunteer at VAMC

_____Attended Senior meeting

_____Conduct a Cookie Pack for troops or Local Veterans

_____Held a membership workshop

_____Increased awareness of Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship

_____Service to Veterans

_____No. of Units w/Juniors in County

_____Total No. of Juniors

_____No. of Active Juniors

_____Total No. of Veterans Served

Total $value of volunteer hours (total hours x $36.14) _____Total miles driven _____

Total $ value of goods and materials donated $_____

Grand Total ($value of hours + goods and materials) $_____

Total_____Junior members attended the Eastern Division Junior Meeting in Albany, NY on January 30, 2027

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions.

- How was the Patch Program promoted?
- What are the various service projects in which Juniors were involved?
- What type of volunteer hours did Junior members perform?
- What ways did senior members mentor the Junior members?
- How does the county plan to increase Junior member participation in meetings and Activities?
- Please include pictures and news articles showing Juniors involved in their activities.

Juniors' hours volunteered, expenses, and donations made which are reportable on the Impact Report Forms, should be combined with those of the Senior members of the Unit or County and reported on the applicable UNIT and COUNTY reports. Separate Junior activities supporting Junior membership and programs should NOT be reported on the Impact Report Forms.

Send to Department Junior Activities Chairman:

Nicole Ross
C: 631-703-6353
nyalajractivities@gmail.com

Keep a copy for your records.

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Leadership

Department Leadership Chairman

Sandy Seacat
C: 585-622-0972
E-mail: nyalaleadership@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Leadership Committee is to better equip members to serve in leadership positions with confidence and skill.

Raise awareness of ALA leadership development opportunities.

- Attend American Legion Auxiliary Mission Training:
  - Watch for event announcements in the *Auxiliary* magazine, ALA emails, and social media for dates and locations.
  - After Mission Training, share the information you received with your unit, district/county, and department.
- **Attend leadership conferences/workshops within your district/department.**
- Participate in ALA Academy courses.
- Be aware of ALA leadership opportunities in your community:
  - Speak to other community organizations about veterans' support.
  - Speak to high schools about veterans to develop your own leadership abilities.
- **ALA Unit Member of the Year Award:**
  - Nominate a fellow unit member for Unit Member of the Year.
  - Open to senior members who are not currently, nor have ever been, in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.
  - Follow your department's procedures for submitting nomination.
- **Leadership Certificate Program: (More details to come.)**
  - Members complete requirements below and a project and receive a Certificate of Completion.
    - Members participate in a mock meeting to gain experience leading a meeting.
    - A member shares a leadership idea at each meeting based upon the Leadership Committee's theme of the month.
    - Officers are paired with mentors for questions and support — at least quarterly communication.
    - Chairs are partnered with other members to help learn the ALA's programs.
    - Documented proof of completing at least two ALA Academy courses during the administrative year.
    - Hold one community-based program to build leadership skills.
- **Promote participation in the ALA Academy.**
  - Log into the MyAuxiliary member portal at https://member.legionaux.org/member/memberprofile
  - Go to the ALA Academy.
  - Available courses include many topics – leadership, communications, mission outreach, etc.
- **Enhance knowledge about ALA history, programs, and organization.**
  - Attend district/department training sessions/workshops.
  - Participate in Mission Training — this is a one-day, interactive conference geared toward learning more about the ALA's core programs and deliver our mission.
  - Download/purchase and become familiar with the:
    - Unit Guidebook
    - Constitution & Bylaws

- Department Operations Guide
- Parliamentary Procedure
- And other ALA guidebooks available to enhance your knowledge of and promote our organization.

DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

***THE KAREN ST. HILAIRE AWARD*:** To the **Unit** Leadership Chairman who submits a written report of the most outstanding accomplishments through leadership in her Unit during the year. The narrative must include the number of senior and junior members in attendance at each program.

THE PRICILLA IMBURGIA AWARD: To the Senior member that participates at the County level showing leadership; encouraging membership; promoting good will among members and demonstrating a commitment to "Service Not Self." Members are NOT to have served in an elected office beyond the County level. County/Unit to submit a nomination of members to include a 1,000 words or less written nomination of the qualifying reasons in support of the nomination.

Junior Award: To the **junior** member who exemplifies the best leadership role model at the **Unit or County** level.

MID-WINTER AWARDS/CERTIFICATES - PRESENTED AT MID-WINTER

MID-WINTER AWARD: *to the **Unit** with the most first-time attendees at the Mid-Winter Conference. For a Unit to be eligible, the Unit President must attend (although not be a first-time attendee herself).*

Self-Paced Courses: All of the courses are on the ALA National Website

Self-paced courses you can take from any device. These are designed for you to take whenever you have time with no need to pre-register.

ALA 101: Member Orientation — Provides a history and overview of the ALA. Explains who we are, what we do, and why we matter. You'll learn how the ALA has a significant impact on our country through service to veterans and their families and how your dedication and commitment will contribute to the ALA's mission.

ALA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion — *ALA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion* was created to help our members recognize biased language and performance bias and implement strategies to overcome them; identify and properly use interrupters to create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all; and demonstrate the ability to coach others on the importance of inclusion and equity within ALA.

ALA Branding – Provides an overview of branding and explains how the Auxiliary's brand impacts the reputation and overall mission of the ALA. You'll learn why brand loyalty is critical to

the ALA's future and discover ways to build brand loyalty.

ALA Communication Methods — Explains how ALA National Headquarters uses various electronic communication methods to provide your department (state) and unit with information and resources to help carry out the Auxiliary's mission. Discover how various social media platforms can be used to promote awareness about the ALA.

Unit Fundraising and American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Grants — Provides an overview of planning, marketing, and executing a successful fundraiser for your unit. You'll also learn about the four types of grants awarded by the ALA Foundation and become familiar with the application process.

Introduction to Conflict Resolution — Examines the benefits and costs of conflict and explains common causes of conflict. You'll learn the difference between conflicts and complaints and identify effective strategies to minimize complaining and resolve conflict in a professional, positive, and proactive manner.

ALA Leadership: Living Our Motto of *Service Not Self* — Defines leadership as a mission mindset and explains core competencies of effective ALA leaders. Gives an overview of how to develop your own personal leadership proficiencies. You'll create a personal leadership development plan that will help you grow as a leader who works toward the ALA mission and inspires others to help move the mission forward.

The Academy also has a course specifically designed for Junior Members:

ALA Juniors E-Learning Course is designed with younger members in mind. Juniors will learn about the purpose of the program, how to excel as leaders, tips for speaking to groups, and much more.

MISSION TRAINING

Would you like to learn more about working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary? Would you like to network with national leaders and other members in your district who share your passion and enthusiasm for helping our veterans? During this 1-day conference, you'll be inspired while learning more about working the ALA's core programs in an interactive and fun environment. Many of the American Legion Auxiliary Mission Outreach programs will be covered during this conference.

Is Mission Training Right for you?

- Yes - if you are interested in meeting members and national leaders outside of your local area who share your passion for helping veterans!
- Yes - if you want to share great ideas with other members across the country or renew your enthusiasm for our mission!
- Yes - if you find yourself growing more involved and you don't know where to turn for the information you need, or you have been doing the same activities for years and you want a fresh approach!

2026-2027 ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings
January 30, 2027: Albany

Event will be held with The American Legion National Information Conference and the SAL Regional Meeting

2026-2027 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. The narrative can also be the department chair's report. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Member of the Year Award

Recognizes those serving at the unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their units.

- Deadline: **June 1**
- All entries must be received by National Headquarters by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.
- *Please note: Members should follow instructions from their department. Units should send their nominations to their department.*

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Leadership Program (per division)

- All entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on **June 1**.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department Leadership Program (per division)

All department entries must be submitted via electronic by 5 p.m. EST on **June 1**.

Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Leadership Committee Award Entry Form

UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

A Unit Member of the Year from each department will be recognized annually at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.

Requirements:

1. ***Open to senior members who are not in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.***
2. ***Each department may submit only one entry. Units must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.***

Nominating Department:	
Dept Leadership Chairman Information *Name:* *Address:* *Email:* *Telephone Number:*	
Nominee Information *Name:* *Address:* *Email:* *Phone:*	
Nominee's Unit Name and Number:	

Form must be completed and submitted to Department Leadership Chairman May 1, 2026.	

Send to Leadership Chairman:
Sandy Seacat
C: 585-622-0972
E-mail: nyalaleadership@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
"UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM"

Deadline for entries, May 1, 2027 - Please Print

Unit Name _____Unit # _____

County_____ District _____

Unit
President_____

Address_____

_____

President's Cell #_____Home #_____

E-mail_____

"Unit member of the year"
Nominee's name & Member #_____

Cell #_____ Home #_____E-mail_____

Nominee's background, eligibility, years of membership, involvement, and notes of interest

_____

_____

_____

List nominee's accomplishments and activities during this administrative year 2026-2027

_____

_____

_____

Read and follow rules carefully, you may add an attachment if needed.

_____ _____
Signature of Unit President Signature of Unit Secretary

Sandy Seacat
C: 585-622-0972
E-mail: nyalaleadership@gmail.com

2026-2027 UNIT LEADERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES ☐ **November 1, 2026** ☐ **April 1, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a Leadership Chairman

Number of Unit Leadership Training Sessions held _____

What topics were covered in these training sessions?

_____

_____

Did you hold training on "nurturing a culture of goodwill"? YES, ____ NO ____

Did your Unit use Leadership material from the Department Website? YES, _____ NO ____

Number of Senior members that completed the ALA Academy Courses_____ (LIST NAMES of members, UNIT AND COURSES watched ON BACK OF THIS FORM)

Number of Junior members that completed the Junior Leadership Course _____ (LIST NAMES ON BACK OF THIS FORM)

Senior members who attended a Mission Training in 2026-2027
(LIST NAMES ON BACK OF THIS FORM) Total_____

Number of Junior members who attended a National Junior Meeting in 2026-2027
Total_____ (LIST NAMES ON BACK OF THIS FORM)

Are you promoting "Unit Member of the Year" _____yes _____no

Value of the volunteer hour is $36.14. _____hours members volunteered

Impact Numbers

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Please send a copy to the County Leadership Chairman

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY LEADERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐ **November 10, 2026** ☐ **April 10, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have a Leadership Chairman

Number of Leadership Training Sessions held by: Unit Level _____ County Level _____

What topics were covered in these training sessions?

_____

_____

Number of training sessions held on "nurturing a culture of goodwill":
on the Unit level _____ on the County level _____

Was Leadership material from the Department Website used? _____

By # of Units? _____ By your County? _____

Number of Senior members that completed the ALA Senior Academy Courses. _____
(LIST MEMBER NAMES, UNIT AND COURSES NAMES ON BACK OF THIS FORM)
Number of Junior members that completed the Junior Leadership Course _____
(LIST NAMES AND UNIT # ON BACK OF THIS FORM)
Senior members who attended a Mission Training in 2026-2027
Total members_____ **(LIST NAMES AND UNIT # ON BACK OF THIS FORM)**
Junior members who attended a National Junior Meeting in 2026-2027.
Total members_____**(LIST NAMES AND UNIT # ON BACK OF THIS FORM)**

Are your units and county promoting "Unit Member of the Year" _____yes _____no

Value of volunteer hour is $36.14 Total hours members volunteered_____

Impact Numbers

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	*** Value of Donations**	**$**

Send a copy of the County Report to the Department Leadership Chairman

Sandy Seacat
C: 585-622-0972
nyalaleadership@gmail.com

Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Legislative

Department Legislative Chairman

Vickie Gauthier
C: 518-322-5206
E-mail: nyalalegislative@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to provide information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

- Utilize The American Legion's Legislative Website at www.legion.org/legislativeto obtain information on legislative priorities, call for immediate action, and connect with representatives.
  - Grassroots Action Center
  - Sign up for alerts.
  - Locate pending legislation.
  - Contact your representatives.
  - Report on meetings with representatives.
- Host a Meet the Candidates Night. Invite all candidates involved in a specific election for a question-and-answer session, not a debate with a townhall format with no Legion Family signage.
  https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/Legislative/How-to-Host-a-Meet-the-Candidate-Night
- Promote the ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide to develop a plan to increase legislative awareness in your community.
  https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Guides/Advocacy-Guide
- If you are interested in joining the Legislative Council to advocate for The American Legion Family's legislative priorities with members of Congress with whom you have personal relationships, reach out to your Department's Legion Legislative Council Vice Chair.
-

DEPARTMENT LEGISLATIVE AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in the lower left corner of the cover sheet.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

Department President's Award: To the Unit that submits the best program advocating for veterans. Program must include at least two of the programs as outlined under the Legislative Committee in the Plan of Action. Entry must be mailed directly to the Department Presidents home by May 1st, 2027.

THE ANN GEER AWARD: To the County with the best overall Legislative Program.

2026-2027 NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. The narrative can also be the department chair's report. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Legislative Program (per division)
Presented: One unit in each division
Materials and guidelines:

- The narrative should not exceed 1,000 words and should include specific examples of how the unit delivered mission service. The narrative can also include portions from the department chair's report.
- It should include action (high-resolution) photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department Legislative Program (per division)
Presented to: One department in each division.
Materials and guidelines:

- The narrative should not exceed 1,000 words and should include program-related mission service; it may consist of the department chair's report.
- Should include action (high-resolution) photos, scans/links to news articles, etc.
- All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

2026-2027 UNIT LEGISLATIVE REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a Legislative Chairman

Check the activities/programs that the unit completed. Please describe activities/projects carried out in your unit. Additional paper or the back of this form may be used.

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____ # of emails & letters sent
_____ # of personal visits

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____ # of emails & letters sent
_____ # of personal visits

NATIONAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____ # of emails & letters sent
_____ # of personal visits

POST FAMILY MEMBERS:

___# of Post Family Functions shared Legislative Issues
___# of Post Events elected officials attended

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

___ # to *The Dispatch*
___ # to Auxiliary Legislative e-newsletter
___ # to American Legion e-newsletter
___ # to www.capwiz.com/legion

EVENTS:

___ Coordinate/Attend "Meet the Candidate"
___ Coordinate/Attend "Town Hall Meeting"

___ Coordinate/Attend a Legislative Reception

___ Attend Washington DC Conference

RESPONSE:

Y N Did you receive a response from an official?

If yes, how many? _____ From whom? _____
Value of a volunteer hour is $36.14

SUMMARY QUESTIONS:

What is the total number of hours donated by your Unit to the legislative program? _____

What is the total dollar amount expended by your Unit to promote the Legislative program? _____

What are the Legislative issues you have been focusing on? _____

_____

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS***

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered		
Line 2	Total dollars spent		$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted		
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated		
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	**Unit Records**	$

PLEASE SEND TO YOUR COUNTY CHAIRPERSON - KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

2026-2027 COUNTY LEGISLATIVE REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐November 10, 2026 ☐April 10, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

County: _____District:_____

_____ County does not have a Legislative Chairman

Check the activities/programs that the unit completed. Please describe activities/projects carried out in your unit. Additional paper or the back of this form may be used.

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____# of emails
_____ # of personal visits

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____ # of emails & letters sent
_____ # of personal visits

NATIONAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

_____ # of phone calls
_____ # of emails & letters sent
_____ # of personal visits

POST FAMILY MEMBERS:

___# of Post Family Functions shared Legislative Issues
___# of Post Events elected officials attended

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

___ # to *The Dispatch*
___ # to Auxiliary Legislative e-newsletter
___ # to American Legion e-newsletter
___ # to www.capwiz.com/legion

EVENTS:

___ Coordinate/Attend "Meet the Candidate"
___ Coordinate/Attend "Town Hall Meeting"

___ Coordinate/Attend a Legislative Reception

___ Attend Washington DC Conference

RESPONSE:

Y N Did you receive a response from an official?

If yes, how many? _____ From whom? _____
Value of a volunteer hour is $36.14

SUMMARY QUESTIONS:

1.What is the total number of hours donated by your Unit to the legislative program? _____

2.What is the total dollar amount expended by your Unit to promote the Legislative program? _____

3. What are the Legislative issues your County has been focusing on? _____
_____
What other Legislative issues are veterans in your area concerned with?_____

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report form	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	**Unit Reports**	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	**Unit Reports**	$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	**Unit Reports**	
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools"* presentations facilitated	**Unit Reports**	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	**Unit Reports**	$

PLEASE SEND TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

Vickie Gauthier
C: 518-332-5206
nyalalegislative@gmail.com

KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

Sample letter - Introduction Letter to Representative

Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone Number
Email Address

Date

Representative Name
Representative Address
Representative City, State, Zip Code

Dear (*See proper salutation below),

As a constituent of the Department of New York and a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, I, **(your name here)** trust that you will advocate for our veterans, active military members, and their families during your term in office. The American Legion's legislative agenda supports initiatives aimed at improving benefits for those we advocate for, as detailed in the attached current Legislative Agenda.

Your office will be contacted throughout your term to discuss pending resolutions and bills. I sincerely hope you will consider sponsoring and supporting the proposed legislation.

As you keep constituents updated on your legislative work, I look forward to receiving those communications. This will allow me to report back to Legion Family members, not only in New York but across the United States, about your dedicated efforts to advance legislation affecting our veterans, active-duty personnel, and their families.

I look forward to speaking with you and your staff in the coming year.
In the spirit of "Service, Not Self,"

Your Name
Your Title or American Legion Auxiliary Member

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and Their Families.

Sample Letter to Support Legislation

Unit/Department Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone Number
Email Address

Date

Representative Name
Representative Address
Representative City, State, Zip Code

Dear (*See proper salutation below),

The American Legion Auxiliary is one component of the nation's most prominent supporters of veterans, the military, and their families - The American Legion Family. The American Legion Auxiliary Unit ____, Department of New York members stand in support of The American Legion's legislative agenda, advocating for laws that enhance the quality of life for our veterans, active-duty personnel, and their families. Our Unit_____, Department of New York aims to maintain a valued relationship with you during your term in office.

The American Legion has endorsed the (name of the resolution/bill); and therefore, the auxiliary advocates for your support in honor of those who have fought and continue to fight for our nation's democracy.

In the spirit of "Service, Not Self,"

American Legion Auxiliary Members Signatures

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and Their Families.

***5 FAH-1 H-516 SALUTATION**
(CT:CH-41; 07-28-2015)
a. When preparing a Congressional letter for the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, the drafter must use one of the following salutations:
(1) Dear Senator_____: (To a U.S. Senator (male or female));
(2) Dear Mr. or Ms._____: (To a Member of the House of Representatives);
(3) Dear Mr. or Madam Chairman: (To a male or female Member as chairperson of a committee or subcommittee);
(4) Dear Mr. or Madam Speaker: (To the Speaker of the House of Representatives); or
(5) Dear Mr. or Madam President: (To the Vice President of the United States in his/her capacity as the President of the Senate).

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Membership

<u>Department Membership Chairman</u>
Yvonne M. Brunner
C: 516-351-0006
Email: nyalamembership@gmail.com

As American Legion Auxiliary members, we play a vital role in supporting the mission of assisting veterans, military personnel, and their families. Through volunteerism, compassion and dedication, members provide programs and services that strengthen communities and honor those who have served our nation.

By working together, members can inspire others to become involved, support outreach efforts, and ensure that veterans and military families receive the care, respect, and assistance they deserve.

Welcome to the 2026 – 2027 Membership Team!

As we enter into a new year, let's take this opportunity to renew, recruit, and reach out to the community to seek new members.

Did you know that there are new eligibility guidelines?

1. The Legion Act passed in 2019 allows all veterans who have served honorably since December 7, 1941, to the present now can belong to The American Legion.
2. Additionally, in 2019, the language of the Constitution was amended to reflect the inclusion of ALL spouses; males are now eligible for membership to the ALA.
3. On December 20, 2019, the Space Force was created as an independent branch of the U.S. Air Force.

Renewal Notice Schedule: 2027 Membership Dues are available to pay starting July 2026

- July 2026: email renewal reminders sent out by National
- September 15, 2026 – 1st Renewal Notice sent by mail
- December 2026 – Email Renewal Reminder
- January 31, 2027 – Unpaid dues are considered delinquent
- February 1, 2027 – 2nd Renewal Notice sent by mail
- Spring – Email Renewal Reminder (to be announced)

To All Unit Membership Chairs – Membership Transmittal form for 2026-2027 year: Remember to state the ***"Full Name" in alphabetical order*** on the transmittal form with the member id. number. Please forward all payment of dues promptly to the Department Office: American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York, 1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg.#1,
Suite #3, Castleton-on-Hudson, New York 12033.

Members can pay online at the National website: alaforveterans.org.
For multiple member dues payment, call National at 317-569-4500 (credit card required).

PRESIDENT LORA, BANDLEADER
JOIN THE MEMBERSHIP BAND
WHERE EVERY ROLE CONTRIBUTES TO THE ALA MISSION

Department President Lora is the **Bandleader**, setting the tempo and guiding the overall rhythm of membership, service, and dedication in support to our veterans. Through her vision and leadership, Lora unites every voice to inspire members to support the ALA mission.

The first Vice President is the **Musical Director** of the Membership band. She encourages the efforts to attract and retain a diverse and active membership by recognizing the contributions and achievements of our members. An energized membership creates a stronger, more resilient veterans' community

The Two Vice Presidents, are the **Lyricists** of the band, they encourage members to sing the praises of the ALA.

The District Presidents are the **Stage Managers,** encouraging every member to cooperatively work as a group, supporting the purpose of membership while encouraging growth and participation in programs.

The District Vice Presidents are the **Producers,** shaping membership growth strategies and supporting coordinated efforts across the counties. They create and encourage innovative ideas for member involvement.

The Counties are the **Promotors,** who are there to support and energize membership to grow stronger through promoting the exclusive benefits of membership.

The County Membership Chairs serve as the **Musical Directors**, guiding the harmony of recruitment, retention, renewal through teamwork and dedication.

The Unit Membership Chairs are the **Talent Scouts** who discover and welcome new voices, inspiring future leaders, and recruit members to strengthen our mission of service.

The Members are the **Chorus** whose voices, dedication and service bring the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary to life.

The Past Department Presidents are the **Backup Singers** providing wisdom, experience and support that strengthen the harmony of leadership and service.

All it takes is 'One Voice'

"If only one voice would start it on its own, we need just one voice facing the unknown and then that one voice would never be alone. It takes that one voice. (Barry Manilow)

Every member has that one voice in 'The Band.' Together we create harmony through service. Membership makes the music stronger.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD: To the Unit that rejoins the largest number of members (Seniors/Juniors) by the close of books June 2027.

AWARDS FOR UNITS

Units must have ***12 members*** to be eligible for awards. Membership awards are determined by the date ***RECEIVED*** at the office, not by the postmark date. Winners will be announced at the Department Executive meetings and in the newsletters.

Milestone #1	**75% by October 1, 2026**	**(5) $100 drawings**
Milestone #2	**85% by November 11, 2026**	**(5) $100 drawings**
Milestone #3	**100% by January 14, 2027**	**(5) $75 drawings**
Milestone #4	**100% by March 15, 2027**	**(5) $50 drawings**
Milestone #5	**100% by April 28, 2027**	**(5) $25 drawings**

AWARDS FOR COUNTIES

Milestone #1	**50% by October 1, 2026**	**(1) $100 drawing**
Milestone #2	**60% by November 11, 2026**	**(1) $100 drawing**
Milestone #3	**75% by January 14, 2027**	**(1) $75 drawing**
Milestone #4	**95% by March 15, 2027**	**(1) $50 drawing**
Milestone #5	**100% by April 28, 2027**	**(1) $25 drawing**

Musical Directors: To the County Membership Chair with the highest percentage of goal by **December 7, 2026, $250.**

Talent Scouts Award: To the Unit Membership Chair with the highest percentage goal, **ten (10) days prior to Mid-Winter 2027, $250.**

Producers Award: To the District Membership Chair with the greatest number of new members by **May 15, 2027, $150.**

Promotors Award: To the County with the highest percentage of membership goal by **June 1, 2027, $100.**

Stage Managers Award: To the District with the highest numerical gain over goal by the close of books **June 2027, $150.00**

All checks for Awards will be issued to the Unit, County or District for the advancement of the American Legion Auxiliary mission.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS IN HONOR OF PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

UNIT:

- **<u>The Past National President Lousia Williams Award:</u>**
  To the Unit with the greatest percentage of Membership gain 30 days PRIOR to the Department Convention

- **<u>The Past National President Phyllis Bachman Sickmond Award:</u>**
  To the first Unit with the highest numerical increase of NEW Junior Members by March 1st.

County:

- **<u>The Past National President Doris Corwith Award:</u>**
  Awarded to the first County that reaches goal.

- **<u>The Past National President Agnes Kennedy Award:</u>**
  Awarded to the County with the GREATEST numerical increase in membership over their goal prior to Department Convention.

District:

- **<u>The Past National President Betty Burdett Award:</u>**
  Awarded to the District Membership Chair with the highest percentage of goal by May 1st.

<u>For the 2026 – 2027 Year: Junior Membership Status</u>

Membership Dues are based on the member's age on January 1st of the Membership year.

If a Junior is born in 2009, they will be a Junior member for the 2027 dues year. On their 18th birthday, they will automatically become a 'Senior' member.

Anyone who is born in 2008 and will be 18 years old by 11:59 pm on December 31, 2026; is a 'Senior' for the year 2027. National has already updated those members to 'Senior' status before the April printing of the 2027 Membership cards and rosters. It should say "MAM," instead of "MYM" under Member type.

Example: A member that is 17 years old on January 1, 2027, will be billed as a Junior member for 2027.

2027 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Member Award: Recruit/Rejoin 10

- **Award:** Special gift selected by the National Membership Chairman.
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 Senior and/or Junior members. Rejoined members must not have renewed since 2023 or earlier.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS member database by June 1, 2027.
    - FORMS must be received at National HQ by June 7, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Form can be printed from the ALA national Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged into the *MyAuxiliary* area to access the page.
    - One entry per recruiter.

Unit Award: **100% Unit Award**

- **Award:** A special gift from the National President
- **Presented to:** Units that reach 100% of their 2027 membership goal by January 31, 2027.
- **Deadline:** January 31, 2027
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - This award will be based on units that reach 100% of their reported goals by January 31, 2027, as verified by ALAMIS.

  Note: **Departments must submit unit goals to National Headquarters by September 1, 2026, to be eligible for the 100% Unit Award. These must be sent in a specific format which will be provided by NHQ. Gifts for winning units will be mailed to each department for distribution.**

Unit Award: New Unit Award

- **Award:** A special gift selected by the National President.
- **Presented to:** New units chartered between September 1, 2026 and July 31, 2027.
- **Deadline:** July 31, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - This award is automatically presented upon receipt and processing of a new unit charter application at National Headquarters.

Department Membership Goals: Department membership goals are based on each department's 2025 membership as of 30 days prior to the 2025 National Convention plus a 1% increase.

Seating at National Convention: Seating at National Convention will be based on each department's percentage of their 2027 membership goal, from highest percentage to lowest.

Department Award: 50% Award

- **Award:** $50 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 50% of their 2027 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** Veterans Day, November 11, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by November 11, 2026.

Department Award: Highest Percentage of New Members per capita

- **Award:** Citation Plaque
- **Presented to**: The Department with the highest percentage of new 2027 members per capita. Citation Plaque with be presented to the winning department at their mid-winter meeting by the national membership chairman.
- **Deadline:** January 1, 2027

Department Award: 85% Award

- **Award:** $85 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 85% of their 2027 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** Merit Medallion Membership Deadline March 15, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by March 15, 2027.

Department Award: Highest Percentage of New Members per capita

- **Award:** Citation Plaque
- **Presented to**: The Department with the highest percentage of new 2027 members per capita. Citation Plaque with be presented to the winning department at their department convention.
- **Deadline:** May 1, 2027

Department Award: 95% Award

- **Award:** $95 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 95% of their 2027 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** National Poppy Day May 28. 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by May 28, 2027.

Department Award: 100% Award

- **Award:** $250 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 100% of their 2027 department goal.
- **Deadline:** Independence Day, July 4, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by July 4, 2027.

Department Award: 95% Retention Award

- **Award:** Citation Plaque
- **Presented to:** Any department that reaches 95% retention rate (includes renewals and rejoins)
- **Deadline:** 30 Days prior to National Convention, July 31, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by July 31, 2027.

Department Award: 102% Award

- **Award:** $500 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 102% of their department goal.
- **Deadline:** National Lighthouse Day, August 7, 2027.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
    - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by August 7, 2027.

2027: RECRUIT/REJOIN 10

Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 junior or senior Auxiliary members for the 2027 membership year. Rejoins must not have paid membership dues since 2023 or earlier.

One entry per recruiter

Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 7, 2027.
Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadline.

New members must be paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2027.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____

Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____Email: _____

Recruiter's Address:_____

Names of *New/Rejoined* Members	Member ID#	Names of *New/Rejoined* Members	Member ID#
1.		6.	
2.		7.	
3.		8.	
4.		9.	
5.		10.	

Certified by Department Secretary: DATE: _____

Department Secretary
Printed Name: _____

Dept. Secretary Signature (required): _____

*I certify that all 10 members are new or rejoined into the 2027 year.
*I've provided or verified number ID numbers and that the form is Filled out legibly and completely.

DO NOT SEND INCOMPLETE FORMS or more than 1 form per recruiter.

Units: Send form to your department secretary.

Departments:

Please either mail or email to:
nyalasecretary@gmail.com by midnight June 1, 2027.

(Subject line: Recruit 10
Member Name & ID number of recruiter

*Must be received at Dept.NYHQ no later than midnight June 1, 2027.

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2027 National Membership Committee Chairman.

One award per recruiter.

2026-2027 UNIT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐ **November 1, 2026** ☐ **April 1, 2027**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Unit:_____County:_____District:_____

Unit Goal: _____# Members Paid to Date: _____ % of Goal: _____

Provide information your Unit participated in:

_____ Membership Recruitment _____ Mentored New Members

_____ Early Bird Membership Perks _____ Membership Renewal Campaign

_____ # Recruited New Junior or Senior Members

_____ # Rejoined Former Junior or Senior Members

Please describe your unit's activities or projects to recruit, retain, and/or revitalize your membership. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

Please focus on the following questions throughout the 2026-27 membership year for your Unit. These questions must be answered for submission to the National Membership Chairman. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

1. Did working on any of the ALA programs help to generate new members? (Example: Teaching flag etiquette at a school resulted in two teachers joining the ALA.)

2. Did you implement new/innovative ideas or practices to increase renewals and/or sign-up new members? If so, what were they?

3. What were some of your hurdles / difficulties you faced during this year?

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact Report ****

SUBMIT THIS FORM TO YOUR COUNTY MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN.
KEEP A COPY OF THIS REPORT FOR YOUR RECORDS.

2026-2027 COUNTY MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: ☐ **November 10, 2026** ☐ **April 10, 2026**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

County: _____District: _____

Of Units in County: _____ # Units Reporting: _____

County Goal: _____# Members Paid to Date: _____% of Goal: _____

Provide information Units in your County participated in:

_____ Membership Recruitment _____ Mentored New Members

_____ Early Bird Membership Perks _____ Membership Renewal Campaign

_____ # Recruited New Junior or Senior Members

_____ # Rejoined Former Junior or Senior Members

Please describe your county's activities or projects to recruit, retain, and/or revitalize your membership. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

Please focus on the following questions throughout the 2026-2027 membership year from your Units. These questions must be answered for submission to the National Membership Chairman. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

1. Did working on any of the ALA programs help to generate new members? *(Example: Teaching flag etiquette at a school resulted in two teachers joining the ALA.)*

2. Did any of your units implement new/innovative ideas or practices to increase renewals and/or sign-up new members? If so, what were they?

3. What were some of your hurdles / difficulties you faced during this year?

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact Report ****

SUBMIT TO DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Yvonne M. Brunner
C: 516-351-0006
Email: nyalamembership@gmail.com

KEEP A COPY OF THIS REPORT FOR YOUR RECORDS

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
National Security

Department National Security Chairman

Dena Restaino
C: 914-261-5757
E-mail: nyalanationalsec@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense.

The ALA National Security program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military servicemembers and their families.

- Support active-duty military families by working with an installation Family Readiness Group (FRG). Contact the Family Readiness Center at your nearby military installation for more information.
- First, let's demystify the lingo. FRG stands for "Family Readiness Group," and it is the focal point of family readiness in the U.S. Navy
- The U.S. Army FRG is now known as the Soldier and Family Readiness Group, or SFRG
- In the U.S. Air Force, it's known as the Key Spouse Program
- The U.S. Marine Corps has the Family Readiness Program
- The Coast Guard has the Work-Life Program
- Collaborate with other like-minded organizations that also support servicemembers and their families:

Armed Services YMCA
Donate to or volunteer at local Armed Services YMCA food pantries which support servicemembers and their families.
Blue Star Families-Family member currently serving
Blue Star Welcome Week — Supporters
USO
Volunteer with your local USO.
Quilts of Valor Foundation
Award a Quilt of Valor — quilts = comfort and healing
Taking Care of Our People (defense.gov)
Raise awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel.

- https://www.defense.gov/Multimedia/Experience/POW-MIA/
- Host events in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day on the third Friday in September.
- https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaFamWebPosters
- Post a POW/MIA flag at every meeting or event.
- If you or someone you know is related to a servicemember classified as Missing in Action, please consider donating mitochondrial DNA to assist identification processes. For more information, visit www.health.mil/military-helath-topics/health-readiness-support

Remember to support those families whose servicemembers made the ultimate sacrifice.

- Work with like-minded organizations to support the families of servicemembers who died during service to our country:
- American Gold Star Mothers
- American Gold Star Families
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
- Utilize Military OneSource resources to assist those you know in need.

- Deadlines/Important Dates

DEPARTMENT NATIONAL SECURITY AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

THE SUSAN M. BRITTON AWARD: To the Unit and County National Security Chairman submitting the most outstanding report of overall National Security activities.

2026-2027 NATIONAL SECURITY AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: **Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program (per division)**
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: **Dorothy Pearl Best Department National Security Award (per division)**
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Salute to Servicemembers Award
Deadline: June 1
Established in 2003, this award honors all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the National Guard/Reserve. One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.
Photos (in a high-resolution format) that show unit mission National Security Committee activities accompany these reports

National Security Committee

SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to now honoring men and women who are currently serving our country in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard – including the National Guard and Reserve components of each branch.

One servicemember from each branch of service will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

Nomination Criteria:

- A man or woman currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces (includes National Guard/Reserve).
- A written narrative or YouTube video that demonstrates exemplary service both in and out of uniform, making his/her the face of men/women in the military.
- Servicemember must be willing to be a guest of the Auxiliary and speak to the general assembly of the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.
- All nomination forms must be submitted by May 1, 2027.

Next Steps:

- The nominating person or the servicemember writes a narrative (750 words or less) or creates a YouTube video (3 minutes or less) that shows the nominated servicemember demonstrating exemplary service both in and out of uniform, making him/her the face of men/women in the military.
- The following form must be completed and submitted by May 1, 2027, to the Department Chairman. Written narratives should be attached. YouTube video links should be pasted in the box provided on the following form.

YouTube Video Checklist

If you choose to submit a video, please be sure to check that your video:

- does not contain any copyrighted music, video, images, or text (not legally owned)
- is not set to "private;" your video must be public.
- is under 2GB in size
- is in .AVI, .MOV, .WMV, or .MPG file formats
- is 3 minutes or less in length

Return completed nomination form to Department National Security Chairman.

Dena Restaino
C: 914-261-5757
E-mail: nyalanationalsec@gmail.com

National Security Committee

SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBER

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Servicemember's Name:	
Servicemember's Email:	
Servicemember's Phone Number:	
Servicemember's Branch of Service:	
Servicemember's Rank:	
Servicemember's Date of Enlistment:	
Servicemember's Awards and Decorations, *if any*:	
Name of Person Making this Nomination, *if not the nominee*:	
Email of Person Making this Nomination, *if not the nominee*:	
Phone Number of Person Making this Nomination, *if not the nominee*:	
Is the servicemember able to attend National Convention?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Is the servicemember comfortable with public speaking?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Written Narrative: 1) please attach separate document to this form. 2) or type narrative directly into the box to the right.	
YouTube Video: copy and paste your video link in the box to the right.	

Return completed nomination form to Department National Security Chairman.

Dena Restaino
C: 914-261-5757
nyalanationalsec@gmail.com

2026-2027 UNIT NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District_____

_____ Unit does not have a National Security Chairman

Check the activities or programs that the Unit worked on and describe them on the back of this form.

____Operation Comfort Warriors
____Honor welcome home events
____How many Blue/Gold Star banners presented
___National Military Appreciation Month
____#Families POW/MIA Notified of remains
_____Total # of members volunteered
_____Total miles driven in providing ALA service
____Family Readiness Groups
____Family to Family Support
____Citizen corps in Community
____ ROTC/JROTC
____#Active-Duty Females served
____Total # of Volunteer hour's
____Total # Veterans/Military assisted

1. Total hours members volunteered _____ multiply X $36.14 hour $_____
2. $_____ Value of goods and material used.
3. $_____Total value

Our service for active-duty military

Include shopping for and preparing care packages, writing letters, helping with U.S. Military or National Guard send-off and welcome home events. (Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program)

Our service for military families

Examples include organizing and delivering Hero Packs, helping with service projects, build or help a neighbor build emergency preparedness kit and plan (CERT)

Please use the reverse side of this form to tell us more about what you do. Feel free to send photos, newspapers, announcements and more.

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *****

1.Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report Line#	**Service for Veterans / Military**	**Member/ Unit Totals**
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	$

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

Impact Report Line#	**Service for Military Families**	**Member/ Unit Totals**
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 9	Total dollars spent	$
Line 10	Number of military families served	

Send this report to your County National Security Chairman.
Keep a copy for your records.

2026-2027 COUNTY NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have a National Security Chairman

Check the activities or programs your Units worked on and describe on the back of this form.

____Operation Comfort Warriors
____Honor welcome home events
____How many Blue/Gold Star banners presented
____National Military Appreciation Month
____#Families POW/MIA Notified of remains
_____Total # of Volunteers
_____Total miles driven in providing ALA service
____Family Readiness Groups
____Family to Family Support
____Citizen corps in Community
____ ROTC/JROTC
____#Active-Duty Females served
____Total # of People served
____ Total # Veterans/Military assisted

1. Total hours members volunteered _____ multiply X $36.14 hour $_____
2. $_____ Value of goods and material used.
3. $_____ Total value

Our service for active-duty military

Include shopping for and preparing care packages, writing letters, helping with U.S. Military or National Guard send-off and welcome home events. (Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program)

Our service for military families

Examples include organizing and delivering Hero Packs, helping with service projects, build or help a neighbor build emergency preparedness kit and plan (CERT)

Please use the reverse side of this form to tell us more about what you do. Feel free to send photos, newspapers, announcements and more.

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

1.Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	**Service for Veterans / Military**	**Member/ Unit Totals**
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	$

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

Impact Report	**Service for Military Families**	**Member/ Unit Totals**
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 9	Total dollars spent	$
Line 10	Number of military families served	

Send County report to Department National Security Chairman
Dena Restaino
C: 914-261-5757
nyalanationalsec@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary

Department of New York
Poppy

Department Poppy Chairman
Deborah Atkins
C: 315-221-0167
E-mail: nyalapoppy@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Poppy Committee is to educate ALA membership and the public on the significance of the poppy and the program's financial benefit for veterans, military, and their families.

Promote the Poppy Program and increase revenue.

- Wear a poppy to promote conversation and interest.
- Educate your community about how funds collected help veterans, servicemembers, and their families.
- Contact local businesses for permission to distribute poppies on their premises. Make sure you have permission for liability purposes; in some instances, permits are required.
- Send a thank you to businesses that allow distribution. Consider using the Poppy Poster thank you cards, available for purchase through Emblem Sales, for your communication.
- Organize a department poppy drive with The American Legion Family. Encourage The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion, Legion Riders, and ALA Junior members to join poppy distributions in your community.

Educate your community on the meaning and history of the poppy.

- Using the image and story of the Flanders Field poppy to educate people about the sacrifices of our military servicemembers helps us raise awareness of the Legion Family and connects us to our mission in the eyes of the public.
- Promote the ALA Poppy Poster Contest in your local schools and youth groups.
- Promote the Little Miss Poppy Contest to Juniors in your unit.
- Offer to speak at local civic engagements about the meaning and significance of the poppy and how Poppy Funds help veterans, servicemembers, and their families.

Celebrate National Poppy Day

- Wear a red poppy all day and tell everyone why.
- Distribute poppies to friends, co-workers and family and tell everyone why.
- Tell the story on Facebook of who you are wearing your poppy to remember or support on National Poppy Day®. Don't forget to tag us! #PoppyDay #LegionFamily
- Accept a poppy and donate if you see a member of The American Legion Family in your neighborhood distributing poppies.
- Distribute National Poppy Day material and make it available to members.
- Organize a poppy distribution at local Memorial Day Ceremonies. Make sure to wear your Auxiliary branded apparel to help tell everyone who you are.
- Invite a local dignitary to lay a poppy wreath at a memorial in your community and invite unit members to be present. Consider singing patriotic songs or other ways to involve your unit members.
- Contact local legislative offices to announce poppy distribution days and request proclamations declaring Poppy Days in your community. (Please see Poppy Day Resources above for more information).
- For more information and resources, visit https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/poppy/poppy-days

Increase the number of poppy makers in your community.

- Set up meetings with recreational and occupational therapists at local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers (VAMCs), Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs), or community hospitals to incorporate poppy-making into their therapy programs.
- Distribute "How to Recruit New Poppy Makers" promotion information.
- Partner with The American Legion to recruit poppy makers within their post homes and departments.
- Post information on "How Veterans Can Make Money by Making Poppies" in local VA homes, medical centers, clinics, nursing homes, and other community organizations that house and care for veterans.
- Using the image and story of the Flanders Field poppy to educate people about the sacrifices of our military service members helps us raise awareness of The Legion Family.
- In her autobiography, The Miracle Flower, she described how the idea came to her after she read Lt. McCrae's poem. Ms. Michael went on to lead a campaign for the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrifice and on Sept. 27, 1920, the Red Poppy became the official flower of The American Legion Family to memorialize the soldiers who served during WWI.

Allowable Uses of Poppy Funds:

Poppy Funds CAN be used for:

1. For the rehabilitation of Veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917.
2. For the welfare of the families of Veterans of the above name period.
3. For the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals.
4. For the welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of Veterans and active military personnel of the above-name period where financial and medical need is evident.
5. For the purchase of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy fund.
6. Sponsoring Veterans on an Honor Flight
7. Veteran Food Pantries

DEPARTMENT POPPY AWARDS

Judging for the Junior and Senior Level will be at the Unit, County or District Level. Winning entries must be brought to Department Convention for both Junior and Senior level entries

Poppy Wreaths, Poppy Centerpiece – You may use poppies without official tags, but the crepe paper poppy must be the dominating flower. Netting, artificial greens and other flowers may also be used. Centerpieces are not to exceed 12" in diameter.

Poppy Hat - You may use poppies without official tags, but the crepe paper poppy must be the dominating flower. Netting, artificial greens and other flowers may also be used. The hat need not be covered but should be presentable for wearing in public.

Non-traditional items such as poppy pencils, stickers, t-shirts, temporary tattoos, cookies, cupcakes, balloons, buttons, Christmas decorations, or Christmas cards, etc., use the traditional memoriam poppy symbol in promotion of the Poppy Program. You may use poppies without official tags, but the crepe paper poppy must be the dominating flower. Netting, artificial greens and other flowers may also be used.

Junior Poppy Tray or Table Favor – Poppies should be predominant. Other materials should be used.

Poppy Poster Contest - A certificate of appreciation to all Poppy Poster Winners in each class.
All Poppy posters are due to the Dept. Poppy chairman by May 1st.

2026-2027 NATIONAL POPPY PROGRAM AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: **Most Outstanding Unit Poppy Program (per division)**
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive a confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: **Best Department Poppy Program (per division)**
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Little Miss Poppy
More information on National Little Miss Poppy Contest: https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Awards/Little-Miss-Poppy-Contest

Poppy Poster Contest
Please note – for the Poppy Poster Contest, refer to your department for submission guidelines.
Poppy Poster Contest rules are available at: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Poppy-Poster-Contest .

National Poppy Contest and Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements Include the Department Award Cover Sheet

Poppy Poster Contest

- Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the unit.
- The contest shall have seven classes:
  - Class I: Grades 2 and 3
  - Class II: Grades 4 and 5
  - Class III: Grades 6 and 7
  - Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
  - Class V: Grades 10 and 11
  - Class VI: Grade 12
  - Class VII: Students with special needs defined as:
    - Those in special education classes
    - A student recommended for special education classes, but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
    - A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities. Identification is contingent upon discretion of school officials.

Poppy Poster Requirements:

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles – “a,” “and” “an,” “the” – are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a picture of the red poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date for the unit contest. The poster shall be on an 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils, and markers.
6. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
7. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
8. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
    - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
    - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
    - 10% - neatness
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians’ grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.
10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label “In Memoriam” from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.
12. May 1 deadline to Department Poppy Chairman to be forwarded to National.

Poppy Poster Contest Judging and Awards

1. Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.
3. Unit members should follow deadlines and process for the department.
4. All department adjudicated entries must be sent by the department chairman to her national division chairman postmarked by the date found on the National Website.
5. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.
6. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

National Miss Poppy Contest: Little Miss Poppy (Ages 6-12)

Little Miss Poppy award submissions are now electronic to address postage and material cost considerations. Please refer to the rules below for submission requirements and deadline information.

- Participant must be between 6 and 12 years of age as of June 1 and be a Junior member in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- Promotional activity of the poppy story must occur through The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the community during the timespan of May 1 of the current year to April 30 of the following year.
- For National Little Miss Poppy consideration, participant must submit a Little Miss Poppy award electronic application with supporting documentation.
- All entries are due by 5 p.m. on June 1.
- In addition to the information on the award application, please include documentation on the criteria below. Accepted formats are Word document, Google Slides, or .pdf. PowerPoint presentations may also be uploaded via Googles Slides. For more information on Google Slides, please visit https://www.google.com/slides/about/.
- Criteria for judging Little Miss Poppy entries:
- The memorial poppy must be visible in all promotion and publicity submitted.
- There is no specific dress code or dress color for Little Miss Poppy.
- Promotion of the Poppy Program: What did you share and do?
- Publicity of poppy activities (newspapers, radio/TV, etc.).
- Submitted file must include the following information (both pictures and descriptions)
- What I learned during my time as Little Miss Poppy?
- How I shared the story of the poppy with my community?
- What does the poppy mean to me?
- What activities did I attend to promote the poppy and its meaning?
- Age-appropriate originality with considerations for neatness and creativity.

The Little Miss Poppy (age 6-12) winner may be invited to the ALA National Convention immediately following her selection, and if she chooses, will travel at her own expense. The winner of the National Little Miss Poppy contest will receive a citation plaque.

POPPY SUPERVISORS

2026-2027

3rd and 4th District

Doreen Hedlund
518-377-3440
Dorhed77@gmail.com

5th District

Deborah Atkins
315-221-0167
atkinsdeborah4@aol.com

6th District

Janet Elston
607-372-1935
Janetelston3@gmail.com

7th District

Lisa Moore
585-245-2762
lisagenny12@gmail.com

8th District

Denice Rojek Perenc
716-348-8568
dperenc@yahoo.com

2026-2027 UNIT POPPY REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____ _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____E-mail: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a Poppy Chairman

# of Veteran poppy makers _____ # of non-Veteran poppy makers _____

# of poppies distributed_____ #of poppy items distributed _____

# of poppies ordered _____

Total hours members volunteered for poppy distribution _____ X $36.14 hour $_____

# of ALA members Distributing Poppies _____ Total raised from cans$_____

# of schools involved with Poppy Drives_____ Total raised from cans$_____

Poppy Funds donations Used For: _____Dollar Amount$ _____

Promotion: Newspaper_____ TV____ Radio____ social media _____ Legislative proclamations_____
(Please check how you raised Poppy Awareness in Your Community and attach copies if available, i.e., Newspaper clippings, ads, social media posts etc.)

Poppy Poster Contest - # of participants' _____ Prizes Awarded _____

Little Miss Poppy - # of Juniors Participating ____ Poppy Scrapbooks #_____

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

How did your members promote the Poppy program? Did the unit promote the Poppy Poster Contest and Little Miss Poppy programs?

_____

_____

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ********

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/ Military

Impact Report		Obtain Total From	TOTAL
Line 6	Number of poppies or poppy items distributed	**Unit Records**	
Line 7	Dollars raised from poppies	**Unit Records**	$

Send a copy of the report to your County Chairman. Keep a copy for your records.

2026-2027 COUNTY POPPY REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name_____

Address_____

Phone: _____E-mail_____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have a Poppy Chairman

# of Veteran poppy makers _____ # of non-Veteran poppy makers _____

# of poppies distributed_____ # of poppy items distributed _____

# of poppies ordered _____

Total hours members volunteered for Poppy distribution _____ X $36.14 hour $_____

# of ALA members distributing poppies _____ Total raised from cans$_____

# of schools involved with Poppy Drives_____ Total Raised from cans$_____

Poppy Funds Used For: _____Dollar Amount$ _____

(Please check how you raised Poppy Awareness in Your Community and attach copies if available, i.e., Newspaper clippings, ads, social media posts etc.)

Promotion: Newspaper_____ TV____ Radio____ social media _____ Legislative proclamations_____

(Please check how you raised Poppy Awareness in Your Community and attach copies if available, i.e., Newspaper clippings, ads, social media posts etc.)

Poppy Poster Contest - # of participants' _____ Prizes Awarded _____

Little Miss Poppy - # of Juniors Participating ____ Poppy Scrapbooks #_____

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

How did your members promote the Poppy program? Did the unit promote the Poppy Poster Contest and Little Miss Poppy programs?

_____

_____

****** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ********

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/ Military

Impact Report		Obtain Total From	TOTAL
Line 6	Number of poppies or poppy items distributed	**Unit Report Forms**	
Line 7	Dollars raised from poppies	**Unit Report Forms**	$

Send a copy of the report to your Department Poppy Chairman. Keep a copy for your records.

Deborah Atkins
C: 315-221-0167
nyalapoppy@gmail.com

OFFICE USE ONLY
Check#_____
Date_____
Amt._____
Date Rec._____

Official Poppy Order Form 2026-2027
American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York, Inc.

Mail this form & check made payable to:

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York
1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1, Suite #3,
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033

Place your order prior to December 1, 2026
Orders received after due date may not be filled

(The Department of New York will continue to have poppies made by Veterans in hospitals or special workshops supervised by the American Legion Auxiliary.) In consideration of your furnishing and shipping the following material, we hereby agree to conduct ourselves under the rules and regulations set forth by our Department and National Organizations. It is understood that the merchandise is not returnable. **Upon receipt of your poppy order, please store it in a dry place.**

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

Minimum order

Poppy Order: 1000 poppies $255. _____500 poppies $130. _____minimum

_____Poppy Can Labels - Minimum order 4/$1.00

Unit/Post Name_____# _____ County _____District_____

Signature_____Date_____

Phone :(___) _____E-mail_____

Rules Governing American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Drive

Poppies offered to the public in New York State under the name and emblem of the American Legion Auxiliary and American Legion are still being made by Veterans who are being paid for their work. Posts and Units sponsoring Poppy Drives and offering poppies are prohibited from buying or selling poppies other than those offered on the above order blank. A resolution amended and adopted on May 9, 2013, by the American Legion National Executive Committee replaces and supersedes all previous American Legion National Poppy Program Resolutions. Orders shall be sent to the name and address appearing on this order blank. Service on the Poppy Drive shall be voluntary. There are no paid workers. Net proceeds from the Poppy Drive shall be used for Veterans, military, and their families.

Lora A. Rowe
Department President

Deborah Atkins
Department Poppy Chairman

Ship To: (Please open and inspect poppies when received.)
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Name_____

Address_____ (No PO Box or RD Numbers)

City _____State_____ Zip _____

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Public Relations

Department Public Relations Chairman
Ardella Turner
C: 718-690-1123
nyalapublicrelations@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Public Relations Committee is to establish and maintain a positive public image of the organization by encouraging ALA members to be visible in their communities through branding and informing the public about the mission of the organization.

Spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary: *A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families.*

- Maintain a social media account(s) for departments, divisions, and units.
- Build relationships with local media.
- Send press releases and letters to the editor to local media.
- Contact your local government for proclamations.
- Have an elevator speech.
- Familiarize yourself with the PR Toolkit.
- Take the ALA Academy courses related to PR:
- ALA Branding and Why it Matters to Me!
- Using Social Media to Your Unit's Advantage
- Encourage ALA members to be visible in their communities through valuable, distinct branding.
- Wear branded clothing, pins, etc., at events.
- Have visible branding at booths, tables, etc.
- Have American Legion Family brochures available at events (order through the department office).

Share the latest news from ALA volunteer national leadership and ALA National Headquarters.

- Distribute newsletters at all levels of the organization.
- Conduct video conferences (Zoom, etc.) with members.
- Inform members of national publications such as Auxiliary magazine, ALA blog, ALA eNews, ALA social media, etc.

DEPARTMENT PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

THE DEBORAH MORRIS AWARD: Award to the county with the best Publicity Book submitted. Must contain County publicity only.

Department Award: To the unit with less than 200 members for a press book containing the best publicity on all the American Legion Auxiliary Programs. Deadline: to be received by the Department Public Relations Chairman no later than May 1ST.

Department Award: To the unit with more than 200 members for a press book containing the best publicity on all the American Legion Auxiliary Programs. Deadline: to be received by the Department Public Relations Chairman no later than May 1ST.

Rules: no specific size or type of book is required
It must include the name of the county, District and Public Relations Chairman and an annual report. Newspaper Clippings and published newspaper photos are acceptable. Cover sheets must list the Unit name, number and name of the Public Relations Chairman submitting the book. Unit books are to be judged on the County Level, and the winner is to be forwarded to the Department Chairman by May 1.

2026-2027 NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: **ALA Mission Focused Social Media Account**
Presented to units with active social media accounts
One unit per department
Must have a maintained account focused on the mission of the ALA
Must conform to *ALA Branding Guide*
Materials and guidelines:
Document with screenshots/photos of social media postings
Social media account URL
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Public Relations Program (per division)
One unit in each division (5) that earns media placements in their community
Materials and guidelines:
Media placements/coverage highlighting ALA mission delivery.
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: **Best Department Public Relations (per division)**
One department in each division (5) to departments that exhibit outstanding use of public relations.
Materials and guidelines:
Articles, newsletters, pictures of displays, ALA events, speeches, website address, social media activity, etc.
Narrative not to exceed 500 words
All entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

2026-2027 UNIT PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name_____

Address _____

E-Mail_____Cell#_____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a Public Relations Chairman

Total Minutes of Radio Time _____Total Minutes of Television Time_____

Total Minutes of Social Network (Instagram, Internet, etc.) _____

Grand Total _____

Please describe activities/projects carried out in your unit.

_____ # Interviews

_____ # Pictures

_____ # Articles

_____ # Dept. President Project Articles_____

_____ # Print Advertising

_____ # Letters

_____ # Editorial Letters

_____# Junior Press Releases

Does your Unit have a website _____

Facebook Page_____

Does your Unit publish a Newsletter _____

Post Family Newsletter_____

E-Bulletin _____

E-Newsletter_____

# of volunteer hours X $36.14=_____.

Reminder: attach 2 copies of print media.

As part of your Narrative Report, please include the answers to the following questions:
How did your unit spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary community of volunteers serving Veterans, military, and their families? How did Auxiliary volunteers make themselves visible while volunteering in the community? _____

_____

_____

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	

SEND THIS REPORT TO YOUR COUNTY PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT FORM

Reporting Dates: ☐ November 10, 2026 ☐ April 10, 2027

Name_____ _____

Address _____

E-Mail_____Cell#_____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have a Public Relations chairman
Total Minutes of Radio Time _____Total Minutes of Television Time_____

Total Minutes of Social Network (Instagram, Internet, etc.) _____

Grand Total _____

Please describe activities/projects carried out by the units in the county.

_____ # Interviews _____ # Print Advertising

_____ # Pictures _____ # Letters

_____ # Articles _____ # Editorial Letters

_____ # Junior Press Releases _____ # Dept. President Project Articles

# of Volunteer hour $36.14 X+_____ _____ Facebook Page

Does your County have a website? Yes, _____ No_____

How many Units report having a website? _____ How many units publish newsletters_____

Does your County publish a Newsletter _____ Post Family Newsletter_____

E-Bulletin _____ E-Newsletter_____

Reminder: attach 2 copies of print media.

As part of your Narrative Report, please include the answers to the following questions:
How have the Units in your County spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary community of volunteers serving Veterans, military, and their families? How did volunteers make themselves visible while volunteering? _____

_____

******** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS**********

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

Impact Report Line #	**For any service not included in Sections 1-3**	**Obtain Total From**	**Total**
Line 19	Total number of hours	*** Hours members volunteered**	

County reports should be mailed or emailed to the Department Public Relations Chairman. Please retain a copy for your records

Ardella Turner
C: 718-690-1123
nyalapublicrelations@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation/Service to Veterans

Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation/Service to Veterans Chairman

Julianne Barton
C : 315-794-5116
E-mail: nyalaVAandR@gmail.com

Purpose: The purpose of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee is to promote programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families, ensuring restoration and/or transition to normally functioning lives.

Support the therapeutic rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts, and hobbies. Support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors.

- Volunteer at local VA facilities, including state VA facilities in your area.
- Collaborate with organizations that support veterans and their families, such as Wreaths Across America, Honor Flight Inc., and the Military and Veteran Caregiver Network.
- Look in your community for opportunities to support veterans, their caregivers, their families, and their survivors.

Outside Partnerships

Wreaths Across America

- Take part in local wreath placement at a national cemetery.
- Sponsor wreaths for placement through Wreaths Across America.

Honor Flight Inc.

- Volunteer with local hubs.
- Utilize your unit's poppy funds to support important aspects of Honor Flight activities. For more information, please see www.honorflight.org/donations.
- Participate in welcome-home events.
- Coordinate the creation and delivery of cards and letters to Honor Flight hubs for mail call.
- Consider volunteering as a guardian for an Honor Flight. Please note — there is an associated cost.

Military and Veteran Caregiver Network

- Learn who is considered a caregiver. This will help you identify caregivers in your community and maybe even as a caregiver yourself. If you identify as a caregiver, consider joining their online peer support community.
- Familiarize yourself with local caregiver resources found in the Hero Care Resource Directory
- Refer to the MVCN's community calendar for educational and volunteer opportunities

National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

- Promote awareness of healing through arts, crafts, and hobbies.
- Donate to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival through the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation.
- Donate to local Veterans Creative Arts Festivals (e.g., time, supplies, money).
- Identify arts, crafts, and hobby projects targeted to veterans (writing, oral history recording, visual and performing arts, quilting, and gardening).
- Donate art supplies to your local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facilities including state veterans' homes, community living centers, and VA medical centers.

- Plan and organize a local Veterans Creative Arts Festival.
- Advocate for art therapy, music therapy, drama, and recreational therapy programs within the VA healthcare system.
- Apply to the ALA Foundation for Veterans Creative Arts Festival Grants to be used for local competitions and festivals in your community. For more information, please go to https://alafoundation.org/vcaf-grants/.

Center for Development and Community Engagement (CDCE, formerly known as VAVS)

- Recruit Auxiliary members as volunteers for the VA Center for Development and Community Engagement at VA healthcare facilities.
- If you see a need in your community that is not being addressed, contact your local VA.
- Familiarize yourself with the service of the VA caregiver support program
- Volunteer at your local VA facility for events such holiday gift shops, Bingo, baby showers, etc.
- Don't forget to include all American Legion Family members in your VA events.
- Coordinate a supply drive for the needs of hospitalized veterans by gathering items such as socks, underwear, toiletries, etc. Please contact your local VA facility or American Legion Auxiliary CDCE representative for needed items.
- Don't forget your state VA facilities, such as state veterans' homes. The veterans who reside there have needs that we may fill as well. For more information and local points of contact, please refer to https://nasdva.us/resources/.

Service to Veterans (Outside of VA Facilities)

- Take part in a veteran job fair by organizing or working at an informational table.
- Promote local veteran-centric job fairs in your community. Support The American Legion by helping host a local job fair at your post home or community center.
- Support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors.
- Provide a spa day or caregiver day out for community veteran caregivers.
- Offer to sit with a veteran while the caregiver runs errands.
- Offer to run errands for a caregiver.
- Prepare information for units concerning the needs of caregiver support.
- Transportation of veterans to appointments or running errands.
- Contact an American Legion Service Officer at your post and offer to be on the list of people to call when a veteran's family needs help.
- Buy school supplies, host a baby shower, or send care packages to veterans' children who are headed to college.
- Become the catalyst to find needs and encourage members to help veterans in their community.
- Promote volunteer opportunities in community settings.
- Utilize websites, newsletters, and other media.
- Report your ALA Service to Veterans hours to your unit VA&R chair.

"Annual SAL & ALA Walk-A-Thon 2027"

"They Marched For Us, Let's Walk For Them" April 2027

Let us all work together this year to make our Walkathon the most successful ever!!!
How you can help:
-Organize a Walk, sponsor a Breakfast, Dinner, BBQ, Carnival, have a Raffle or Write a donation letter and mail or email, to your family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, Units, Squadrons and Legion Members

This year, donations will go to our **Department President's Project: "Veterans Creative Arts Festival New York."**

Stay tuned for more information on the Walk-A-Thon.

DEPARTMENT VETERANS' AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION
SERVICE TO VETERANS' AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD: To the Unit that submits the best program serving our Veterans through Veterans Creative Arts. Entry must be mailed directly to the Department Presidents home by May 1st, 2027.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILIATION (Walk-A-Thon) - To the Unit that submits the best program promoting the Annual SAL and ALA Walk-A-Thon 2027. Entry must be mailed directly to the Department Presidents home by May 1st, 2027.

***THE LINDA TOME AWARD*:** To the unit and County who submits the best report on their year-round VA&R/Service to Veterans Program.

THE KIMBERLY QUICK AWARD- to the Unit chairman who initiates and completes the most outstanding program for assisting & caring of women veterans.

Department Award: To the Junior Group reporting the most outstanding service benefiting our hospitalized veterans.

2026-2027 NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION VA&R AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements
All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form

Unit Award: **Most Outstanding VA&R Program (per division)**
All unit entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Best Department VA&R Program (per division)
All department entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

VA Medical Center Appointments Representative and Deputies 2026-2027

Albany Stratton VAMC, 113 Holland Ave., Albany, NY 12208
3rd District

Representative: Marie Mock
518-961-6142
mcmock@hotmail.com

Deputy: Judy Benner
518-817-1240
judybenner13@gmail.com

Western NY (Batavia) VAMC, 222 Richmond Ave, Batavia, NY 14020
8th District

Representative: Melissa Chislom
585-944-8375
mmmsalvino@yahoo.com

Deputy: Carole Jones
716-560-9590
carole.jones515@gmail.com

Deputy: Barbara Eddy
585-507-9930
bjzeddy@hotmail.com

Bath VAMC, 76 Veterans Ave., Bath, NY 14810
6th and 7th Districts

Representative: Jacqueline Williams
607-368-2140
Jacquelinekanerwilliams@gmail.com

Deputy: Suzanne Moore
607-760-5658

James J. Peters (Bronx) VAMC, 130 West Kingsbridge Rd., Bronx, NY 10468
1st District

Representative: Ann Greaney
917-797-6231
agreaney@verizon.net

Deputy: Kathleen Devine
646-732-3781
katedevine606@optonline.net

New York Harbor (Brooklyn) VAMC, 800 Poly Place, Brooklyn, NY 11209
2nd District

Representative: Marie SantaCroce
718- 436-6303
re507@aol.com

Deputy: Dorothy Scheuring
347-403-4756
d_scheuring@yahoo.com

Western NY (Buffalo) VAMC, 3495 Bailey Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215
8th District

Representative: Carol Puckett
716-998-2022
capuck47@verizon.net

Deputy: Elizabeth Bruce
716-876-8022
Highpocket6@aol.com

Canandaigua VAMC, 400 Fort Hill Ave., Canandaigua, NY 14424
7th District

Representative: Sandy Coryer
585-410-3106
scoryer1@yahoo.com

Deputy: Bernice Sank
585-658-4115
beesank@gmail.com

Hudson Valley (Castlepoint) VAMC, 41 Castle Point Rd., Wappinger Falls, NY 12590
9th District

Representative: Mary Ellen McCue
845-518-6437
25ladyjasper@gmail.com

Deputy: Barbara Corker
914-489-7101
babscork@optonline.net

Hudson Valley (Montrose) VAMC, 2094 Albany Post Rd., Montrose, NY 10548
9th District

Representative: Patrice Cortelli
914-806-8531
mortcort@juno.com

Deputy: Roseanna Santangelo
914-589-3517
rxy1996@gmail.com

New York Harbor (Manhattan), 423 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010
1st District

Representative: Kwanyee Francis Wong
732-357-5241
franlwong@gmail.com

Deputy: Karen Chan
347-991-7332
kchan1291@aol.com

Northport VAMC, 79 Middleville Rd., Bldg. 200, Northport, NY 11768
10th District

Representative: Patricia Rama
631-524-9892
ala.pattirama@gmail.com

Deputy: Susan Neville
516-424-2822
suephd@aol.com

St. Albans Community Living Center, 179-00 Linden Blvd, Jamaica, NY 11425
10th District

Representative: Jean Ross
631-805-3677
rjeanr26@aol.com

Deputy: Nicole Ross
631-703-6353
rossn0614@gmail.com

Deputy: Lucile Walker
718-864-3836
walkerlucile@yahoo.com

Syracuse VAMC, 800 Irving Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210 - 5th District

Representative: Patricia Murphy
315-427-7578
Murphyp6851@gmail.com

Deputy: Rita Keyes
315-567-3143
keyerita@gmail.com

NEW YORK STATE VETERANS' HOMES
2026-2027

New York State Veterans' Homes Oxford NYS Veterans Home - 6th District
Tami Zebrowski-Darrow
607-759-6891
tzebrowski@stny.rr.com

Montrose NYS Veterans' Home - 9th District
Patrice Cortelli
914-806-8531
mortcort@juno.com

Batavia NYS Veterans' Home - 8th District
Melissa Chislom
585-944-8375
mmmsalvino@yahoo.com

Stony Brook NYS Veterans' Home - 10th District
Patricia Bergin
631-875-4708
Ptberg63@aol.com

St Albans NYS Veterans' Home - 10th District
Jean Ross and Nicole Ross
631-805-3677
rjeanr26@aol.com

2026-2027
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
VAVS RULES

On a yearly basis the Department President will appoint one VAVS (Veteran Administration Voluntary Services) Representative and up to three Deputies. This appointment may continue from year to year if the VAVS Rep/Dep and the Veterans facility agree to continue the program. The Department Secretary will prepare and submit Certification forms for a new appointment, or as required by the National American Legion Auxiliary.

1. Regardless of any changes to a District's particular program, there will be no deviation to the rules as contained without consent of the Department Executive Committee.

2. The VAVS Representative will work closely with the CDCE (Center for Development and Community Engagement) director, to discuss the current needs for veterans served by their respective VA Facility.

3. The VAVS will inform the American Legion Auxiliary members in their respective district as to the needs of the VA facility. This may include soliciting volunteers, donations of supplies, food or the funds needed to meet the need of assigned facility. It is recommended to give a summarized report on all activities held at the respective District Fall or Spring conference.

4. While the VAMC will keep electronic attendance records for VAVS representatives, deputies, regular scheduled and occasional Auxiliary members who serve veterans at a VAMC facility or in the community shall keep track of their hours and report them to the Department VA&R committee chairperson.

5. The VAVS Representative as well as the Deputies, should attend quarterly meetings schedule by their respective CDCE.

6. The VAVS Representative is responsible for scheduling an annual appointment with the CDCE director for the purpose of receiving an Annual Joint Review (AJR). This must be completed and submitted to the Department Secretary by December 30th of each year. The VAVS Representative shall reconcile the hours shown on the ALR, with your records for all volunteers for accuracy.

7. All funds are accountable through the VAVS Representative's Unit bank account to comply with bonding requirements. Accounts must have two or more authorized signatures, one of those signatures being the unit treasurer. A debit card associated with said account may be authorized by the unit, to be used by the VAVS Representative.

Adopted: April 6, 2025, by Department Executive Committee

Christmas Gift Shop Chairman 2026-2027

Albany VAMC
3rd-4th District
Susan Lupian
518-391-1624
Sloop0830@aol.com

Bath VAMC
6th-7th District
Adelaide Butler
607-798-9711

Suzanne Moore
607-760-5658

Canandaigua VAMC
7th District
Sandy Coryer
585-410-3106
Scoyer1@yahoo.com

New York Harbor (Brooklyn) VAMC
2nd District
Dorothy Scheuring
347-403-4756
D_scheuring@yahoo.com

Western NY (Buffalo) VAMC
8th District
Suzanne Williams
C 716-378-5216
Wms0339@localnet.com

Western NY (Batavia) VAMC
8th District
Melissa Chislom
585-944-8375
mmmsalvino@yahoo.com

James J. Peters (Bronx) VAMC
1st District

Hudson Valley (Castle Point) VAMC
9th District

Hudson Valley (Montrose) VAMC
9th District

New York Harbor (Manhattan) VAMC
1st District
Fanny Hom
212-675-1841
homfny.ala@gmail.com

Syracuse VAMC
5th District
Karen St. Hilaire
315-748-4481
sthkaren6@gmail.com

Northport VAMC
10th District

2026-2027

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK GIFT SHOP RULES

The Gift Shop Chairman is appointed by the Department President yearly. Gift shops are typically hosted at a VAMC, or in a facility treating a large number of veterans. Each Chairman is responsible for all the funds, purchases, coordinating/instructions for the volunteers and reports for the program. Many Chairmen appoint a co-chairman which is generally approved by the District President. The program is a District event whereas the Units, Counties, Post and Squadrons contribute to the fund to purchase the gifts, which are selected by the facility's veteran to send to their next of kin and others as deemed appropriate. All costs including postage, refreshments, etc., are at the expense of the gift shop funds.

1.Regardless of any changes to a District's particular program, the Gift Shop Chairman must read the rules and report any program changes and justification for the change at the Fall Conference. Any program changes should be presented in the form of a motion and voted on by the voting members assembled. There will be no deviation from the rules as contained without consent of the Department Executive Committee.

2.The Gift Shop Chairman will provide receipts of all contributions and expenses with the gift shop report as attachments. This report is to be completed no later than December 31st and distributed to all contributing Counties within the American Legion Family, noting Unit, Post and Squadron contributions. Send a copy of report to the District President including copies of receipts, original report, and receipts to the Department VA&R Chairman.

3.The Gift Shop Chairman will work with their Voluntary Service Programs Director and/or designee to arrange a date and time for the Gift Shop. The VAVS Representative and Deputies as assigned will be privy to the plans and assist as needed.

4. All gift shop funds are accountable through the Gift Shop Chairman's Unit bank accounts to comply with our bonding requirements. Accounts must have two or more authorized signatures, one of those signatures being the unit treasurer.

5. The Gift Shop Chairman is to disperse with any gifts left over from the Gift Shop. Any proceeds from the sale of these gifts are to be returned to the Gift Shop fund, with a receipt of sale. All such receipts must be submitted with the gift shop report. Any clothing appropriate for the Veterans is donated to the facility for their use. Items appropriate for prizes should be donated to the facility for recreational events. Donation forms should be completed, and a copy attached to the report.

6.Funds exceeding $4,000.00 are to be disbursed in accordance with the wishes of the district. A motion as to the donation of funds should be made at the Spring Conference or next meeting following the close of the gift shop books. $4,000.00 may be placed in a six-month interest-bearing account in the name of the Unit, American Legion Auxiliary in which the Chairman is a member.

Adopted: December 5, 2021, by Department Executive Committee

2026-2027 UNIT VA&R/SERVICE TO VETERANS REPORT FORM

Report Dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____Email address: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ Unit does not have a VA&R Chairman

Identify the activities/projects carried out by your Unit. _____

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served _____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 an hour) $_____

_____

Service to Our Veterans Inside of VA Facilities

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served _____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 an hour) $_____

NOTE: VA Facilities -- Make sure your VA representative is sending in the attendance sheets, etc. for activity in facilities.

Service to Our Veterans Outside of VA Facilities

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served _____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 hour) $_____

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions: (on back of report)
How did the units support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors? How did the units support rehabilitation and healing of veterans via the arts, crafts, or hobbies?

_____

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ***

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered		
Line 2	Total dollars spent		$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/militaries assisted		
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools" presentations* facilitated		
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	**Unit Records**	$

Send report to: YOUR COUNTY VA&R CHAIRMAN
Keep a copy for your records

2026-2027 COUNTY VA&R/SERVICE TO VETERANS REPORT FORM

Report Dates: ☐ November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____Email address: _____

County: _____District_____

_____ County does not have a VA&R Chairman

Identify the activities/projects carried out in your County. _____

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served _____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
_____ Number of new VAVS Volunteers
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 an hour) $_____

Service to Our Veterans Inside of VA Facilities

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served _____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
_____ Number of new VAVS Volunteers
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 an hour) $_____

NOTE: VA Facilities -- Make sure your VA representative is sending in the attendance sheets, etc. for activity in facilities.

Service to Our Veterans Outside of VA Facilities

_____Total hours members volunteered _____Total dollars spent
_____Total number of veterans served
_____Value of in-kind donations
_____Total number of miles driven in providing ALA services
Total hours members volunteered _____ (multiply X $36.14 an hour) $_____

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions: (on back of report)
How did the units support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors? How did the units support rehabilitation and healing of veterans via the arts, crafts, or hobbies?

_____

*** YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS ***

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report form	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	**Unit Reports**	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	**Unit Reports**	$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	**Unit Reports**	
Line 4	Total number of "*Veterans in Community Schools*" presentations facilitated	**Unit Reports**	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	**Unit Reports**	$

Keep a copy for your records

Send report to: YOUR DEPARTMENT VA&R CHAIRMAN

Julianne Barton
C: 315-794-5116
nyalavaandr@gmail.com

2026-2027 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Warriors Family Assistance

Department Warriors Family Assistance Chairman
Gina Southcott
315-576-6383
E-mail:nyalaWFA@gmail.com

The Warriors Family Assistance Program (WFA), created in 2008, continues to help our currently deployed military and their families and those honorably discharged. The National Guard and Reservists who have been federally deployed are also eligible for grants of up to $1500.00.

The men and women of our military services have put their personal lives on hold to protect and maintain the freedoms we all enjoy. It is for them and their families that the American Legion Auxiliary strives to assist in whatever way possible. Simply put "it is what we do" - support our soldiers, veterans, and their families when they need it most. It is through the Warriors Family Assistance Program that we provide that assistance during deployment or upon their return home. The success of this program relies on our auxiliary members, an important resource to help identify those in need, Family helping Family.

A Review Panel of two or more members at the Unit/County or District level is required to interview the applicant, review the application, examine the paperwork and then upon a unanimous decision, submit the application to the WFA Committee. Upon completion of the interview, please provide him or her with the latest WFA brochure. It is available from our Department Office and all District Presidents should have a supply on hand. Your recommendation determines the suitability of the grant. Please consider volunteering as a panel member in your Unit/County/District.

Three types of grants are available:

MAINTENANCE:

- To alleviate the cost-of-living expenses including food, shelter, utilities, personal hygiene, clothing, homeowner's insurance premiums, home repair (not home improvement), providing handicapped facilities in the home, repair, or replacement of a major appliance
- Reconnect utilities
- Prevent eviction or foreclosure

MEDICAL:

- To alleviate the cost of current medical expenses
- To assist in payment of outstanding medical bills

OPPORTUNITY FOR EMPLOYMENT GRANTS:

- Provides financial assistance in finding transportation to work
- Provides assistance for childcare if the custodial parent must find employment

Grants are based on the immediate need of the applicant. Upon completion of the application process, grant eligibility is determined by a panel of five Department Executive Committee members: Second Vice-President, Third Vice President, the WFA Committee Chairman and the Department Finance Committee members #1 and 2.

DEPARTMENT WFA AWARD

***THE LINDA MOSEMAN AWARD*:** Two categories for the **largest single donation** to the 'Warriors Family Assistance Program by May 1st.

Category 1 Units with membership of 10 — 99 Members
Category 2 Units with membership of 100 plus Members

2026-2027 UNIT WARRIORS' FAMILY ASSISTANCE REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____Phone Number: _____

Unit: _____County: _____District: _____

_____ **Unit does not have a WFA Chairman**

Check Activities in which your Unit participated and describe activities/fundraisers/publicity your Unit held for this Committee. Please use the back of this form or additional paper.

_____Publicized WFA in Community
_____Provided brochures to VA clinics, hospitals, veterans service officers, etc.
_____Provided information on WFA to American Legion Post
_____Developed a Unit Review Panel
_____Donated to the WFA
_____Solicited donations from other organizations
_____Held fundraiser to benefit WFA
_____Provided additional assistance to a WFA applicant
_____The value of a volunteer hour is $36.14

Total number of hours dedicated to this program _____

Total amount of donations to Warriors Family Assistance Program $_____

Total monetary donations provided directly to WFA applicants $_____

Total value of goods and/or services donated directly to WFA applicants $_____

Grand total of all donations $_____

* YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report Form	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Total**
	Total hours members volunteered	
	Total dollars spent	$
	Total number of veterans/militaries assisted	
	Value of in-kind donations received*	$

SEND A COPY TO YOUR COUNTY WFA CHAIRMAN
KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

2026-2027 COUNTY WARRIORS' FAMILY ASSISTANCE REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: ☐November 1, 2026 ☐ April 1, 2027

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____Phone: _____

County: _____District: _____

_____ County does not have WFA Chairman

Check activities in which Units in your County participated and describe activities/fundraisers/publicity your Units held for this Committee. Please use the back of this form or additional paper.

Publicized WFA in Community _____
Provided brochures to VA clinics, hospitals, veterans service officers, etc. _____
Provided information on WFA to American Legion Posts _____
Developed a Unit and/or County Review Panel _____
Donated to the WFA _____
Solicited donations from other organizations _____
Held fundraiser to benefit WFA _____
Provided additional assistance to a WFA applicant _____
The value of a volunteer hour is $36.14_____
Total number of hours dedicated to this program _____
Total amount of donations to Warriors Family Assistance Program $_____
Total monetary donations provided directly to WFA applicants $_____
Total value of goods and/or services donated directly to WFA applicants $_____
Grand Total of all donations **$_____**

* YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report Form	**Service for Veterans/Military**	**Total**
	Total hours members volunteered	
	Total dollars spent	$
	Total number of veterans / militaries assisted	
	Value of in-kind donations received*	$

Send a copy to department Chairman. Keep a copy for your records.

Gina Southcott
315-576-6383
nyalaWFA@gmail.com

2026 – 2027 American Legion Auxiliary ALA Foundation

THE ALA FOUNDATION MISSION

The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation positively impacts the lives of our veterans, military, and their families by funding programs of the American Legion Auxiliary today and for future generations.

Since 2007, the ALA Foundation has been assisting the American Legion Auxiliary in conducting its educational, charitable, and other exempt purposes by raising funds for and providing financial support to Auxiliary programs. Every gift makes an impact and is deeply valued. As a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, the ALA Foundation also provides a resource to engage additional investors interested in supporting our mission.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS VETERANS, MILITARY, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Your support of the ALA Foundation helps ensure the ALA's mission of service to veterans, military, and their families endures.

Veteran Projects Fund: The Veteran Projects Fund gives ALA entities an opportunity to begin a new volunteer initiative or forge partnerships with organizations that provide services directly to veterans. The ability of ALA Units and Departments to make a substantial impact in a positive way is enhanced by Veteran Projects Fund grants of up to $10,000. Donations for this fund are used to fund projects that meet a new, one-time need for veterans and military in communities across the country.

Units, Counties, Districts, and Departments may apply for Veteran Projects Fund grants. In addition to helping your Unit to serve veterans, receiving a grant also increases your community's awareness of the work you do! Information and instructions can be found at www.alafoundation.org.

Mission Endowment Fund: This fund is designed to ensure the future by keeping the principal untouched. The larger the principal balance, the larger the investment dividends grow and the more the ALA Foundation can support granting initiatives and ALA programs like ALA Girls Nation and the Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund. Donating to the Mission Endowment Fund, in a way, is the ultimate gift to the ALA and its future.

Veterans Creative Arts Festival: The ALA Foundation is a repository for donations to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, of which the American Legion Auxiliary is a co-presenter. These festivals include competitions in art, creative writing, dance, drama, and music for veterans enrolled in the VA national health care system. Your donation allows the ALA Foundation to strongly support the ALA's co-presenter ship of this event.

THE CATHLEEN MACINNES AWARD: To the Unit which makes the largest donation to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation (ALAF). Funds given by the Unit and by its members will be counted as the total donation from the Unit. Donations should be made directly to the ALA Foundation (www.alafoundation.org). All funds received by the ALA Foundation between May 1, 2026, and April 30, 2027, will count toward the award.

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families

We know that military service is a sacrifice for the whole family, so ALA members quietly look for ways to ease the burden — whatever it takes to get that family back on their feet physically, mentally, socially, and vocationally. If we don't have the resources, we connect military families with our partners who do.

In honoring our veterans, one of our core values is to demonstrate and pass on respect for our country and our nation's flag. We promote patriotic youth programs, most notably the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and Girls Nation programs, held regionally and nationally, along with education programs, contests, and scholarships in local school systems.

Making our communities better places in which to live is another core value put into action by American Legion Auxiliary members every day across the country. Whether hosting a stand down to bring vital health and support services to homeless veterans or coordinating a send-off or welcome-home event for a deployed military unit, ALA members are continuously at work in their communities, demonstrating the compassion and heart we have for those who serve our country and protect our freedoms.

The American Legion Auxiliary's declaration -- the story of who we are, what we do, and why we matter

We are the American Legion Auxiliary.
We are called to serve.
We respect our country and the service of those who defend our freedoms.
We are loyal to our United States Constitution and to those who protect it.
We are humbled by the courage of our veterans and their families.
We are alone, yet we stand together.
We are daughters, brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers. We are family.
We are of every color. We are of every faith.
We are of every age.
We are anyone and everyone.
We are common and extraordinary.
We are citizens.
We live in small towns.
We live in suburbs.
We live in cities.
We work in fields, in factories, warehouses, offices, at home.
We are a community. We help one another.
We love our flag and all that it stands for.
We are many. We are one.
We are the American Legion Auxiliary. A Community of Volunteers
Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families.
We commit ourselves to the ideal: *Service Not Self*.