

**Granite GIRLS State
2025-2026 Plan of Work**

Linda Dupont, Chairman
PO Box 114
Gorham, NH 03581
603-723-3907
linda.dupont90@yahoo.com

2nd Member Amanda Hatch
21 Gebo Way
Belmont, NH 03220
603-520-0809
amandahatch78@gmail.com

3rd Member Ami Davidson
14 Gale Ave.
Northfield, NH 03276
603-286-4380
argale@metrocast.net

Purpose:

Provide an educational opportunity for young women in the basic ideas and principles of our American government through the American Legion Auxiliary GIRLS State and GIRLS Nation citizen programs.

ALA GIRLS State Core Program:

GIRLS State is a non-partisan program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, an amazing week of learning focused on responsible citizenship, leadership, and love for God and Country. High school girls who have completed their junior year in high school are eligible to attend. Participants are assigned to mock town, cities, and counties, and to either the “Federalists Party or Nationalist Party. They are immersed in learning about the political process by electing officials for all levels of state government and running a mock government.

Two girls are selected from the program to attend ALA GIRLS Nation for a week in Washington DC normally held the third week in July.

Objectives:

Instill an awareness of the American Legion Auxiliary’s mission in all ALA GIRLS State citizens.

- Encourage eligible young ladies to become involved with volunteer projects in their communities that involve veterans, active military, or the American Legion Auxiliary.
- Encourage all eligible ALA GIRLS State citizens to join the American Legion Auxiliary
- Increase participation by highlighting college scholarship/funding possibilities for ALA GIRLS State Participants.

Promote the Samsung Scholarship, a scholarship opportunity for every participant of each ALA GIRLS State program, who is a direct descendant of a veteran. One ALA GIRLS State citizen from each state is named as a department finalist, guaranteed to receive a scholarship of \$1250. Ten (10) national winners and (10) national runners-up are then chosen from the department finalist, each receiving a \$10,000 and \$5,000 scholarship respectively.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP THIS PREMIER PROGRAM!

Our key word is COMMUNICATION!

Letters have been mailed to all schools that sponsored a young lady who received recognition a Granite GIRLS State at the end of 2024-2025 program. As Unit members, please follow up with the young lady you sponsored and invite her to come to your Unit to speak about her week. Contact the schools and provide them with posters and brochures and make yourself available to talk with the students in promoting both the GIRLS State and Boys State Programs. Reach out to the Committee members if you need help in this area.

We will be working with the District Directors to have a contact person for GIRLS State if their Units have any questions or need assistance in promoting this program.

Awards/Scholarships

Dottie Hunnewell Memorial Award Dottie was a Department President and life member of the American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of NH. She was also a dear friend, dedicated counselor and ALA Granite GIRLS State Secretary for more than 25 years. Because of her love and devotion for this program, the American Legion Auxiliary voted to name this award in her honor.

Detachment of NH Girls State Award Steve Fisher, Past Detachment of NH Commander established this award after being introduced to the ALA Granite GIRLS State program. Those applying for the above-named awards/scholarships must apply during their year of ALA Granite GIRLS State Citizenship.

The SAMSUNG Scholarship- Should you wish to be considered for this honor; the Samsung scholarship application form must be completed on line.

Department Awards

Lamont Pierce GIRLS State Plaque (given in memory of James D, Lamont & Heidi Ann Pierce, through the James E. Coffey Unit #3, Nashua) – given annually at Mid-Winter Conference to the Unit/Post that sponsors the Granite GIRLS State Governor.

Ann G. West GIRLS State Award (donated by PDP Glenda Joyce) – Given to the Unit in Department submitting the best overall GIRLS State report. Unit chairman is to fill in all questions on the Annual Report Form and provide a narrative not to exceed 800 words. The report must include the Unit name and number, name, and address of the Unit chairman. Pictures may be included as well as letters, newspaper articles and fundraising ideas.

Resources:

Posters (both 8 ½” x 14” and 8 ½” x 11”) are available to put up at your local schools, community bulletin boards, library, library, and Post Office. This will help COMMUNICATE information on this great program.

Brochures are available at Department Headquarters