

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New Hampshire
Junior Activities Plan of Works

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American Legion Auxiliary Juniors are the future of our organization.

The goal of the Junior Activities Program is to encourage the Junior Auxiliary to continue their participation into senior membership. The success of the Junior Program is largely dependent on the leadership provided by the Unit. Juniors are not a separate organization but are under the guidance of an Advisor from the American Legion Auxiliary unit. The Junior activities program inspires active participation in members under the age of 18 so that they will become engaged, productive members who will want to become senior members. Remember Senior Members, you need to become involved by getting your junior members together and donate some of your time to create a Junior group for your unit or work with one Junior. Mentoring is an important part of helping Junior members grow into active service members. Often the mentor is the Parent or Grandparent but that does not have to be the case. It could be an older Junior Member mentoring a younger Junior member.

Key Program Statements:

- To inspire active participation in members aged 17 and under so that they will become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.
- To build the Junior Activities program one member at a time by giving Junior members a voice and an opportunity to participate.
- To promote and encourage Junior participation in the Patch Program to teach them about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- To make Junior meetings fun and informative.
- To read the Junior Handbook
- To take the ALA Junior E-Learning Course @ alaforveterans.org and grow as an ALA Junior Member
- To attend the 2025-2026 ALA Mission Training and National Junior meetings in Albany on November 15, 2026. (More info to follow)

This year we are still trying to engage the Juniors in the Patch Program. There is so much to learn from completing one of the patches. Also, this year, we are hoping a lot more Juniors submit for scholarships and awards offered by both the Department and National. If you would like the Junior committee to attend any of your Junior meetings to go thru anything, please let me know. Also, don't forget to have your Juniors participate in the Junior Conference October 4th, Mid-Winter in January, and the Junior Convention in May.

Junior Activities Patch Program:

Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, as well as school-aged Sons of the American Legion members who often work alongside Juniors, may earn patches for activities in ALA programs, such as Poppy, Leadership, Americanism, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, and more. Participating in the Patch Program is a terrific way to be involved in learning about the Auxiliary and our Legion Family, volunteering in the community, and service our country's Veterans.

The Patch Program has many different levels depending on the Juniors age.

Purple Level: Preschool age 3 thru Kindergarten

Red Level: 1st grade thru 4th grade

Gold Level: 5th grade thru 8th grade

Blue Level: 9th grade thru 12th grade

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

These are awarded at the Junior Convention in May except the Robinson Award which is given at the Department Convention. These reports are written by the Juniors.

Unit 4 Americanism Program Trophy: To the Junior Unit in the Department presenting the best overall Americanism program. More information will be given out at the Junior Convention.

Phillips Award: For the group submitting the best report on civil preparedness.

Manley Award: For the group submitting the best Public Relations press book. (ie: Letter to the Editor, newspaper clippings, Flyers handed out)

Chevrette Award: To the best Junior group submitting a report that promoted music entertainment in schools, or community events.

Robinson Award: To Junior members without a group submitting the best activities report working with a Senior Member (written by a Junior Member)

Gladu Trophy: For the group submitting the best activities report. ie: car washes, something Juniors did with Senior members, walking in a parade, etc.)

Long Gavel: For the group submitting the second-best activities report

Junior History: Junior writing up the history of what was accomplished. Ie: History, meeting dates and times, chronological order, etc.) Rules the same as the Senior History.

Junior Photo History: Rules are the same as the Senior Photo History: Show pictures of what you have attended. Make sure the name and date and what it is for is written under the photo.

Junior Prayer Book: Rules are the same as the Senior Prayer Book. Will discuss more at the Fall Junior Conference.

Junior Foreign Relations Scrape Book: Rules are the same as the as the Senior. This year Foreign relations is Switzerland.

Doll Dressing Contest: Doll is dressed in a costume that is native the country in Foreign Relations which is Switzerland.

Handiwork Contest: Group 1-3 – Class 1 (ages 6-8 years)
Class 2 (ages 9-12 years)
Class 3 (ages 13-15 years)
Class 4 (ages 16-18 years)

POPPY POSTER CONTEST: The poster is to be made up on poster board only. (If made on construction paper or drawing paper it will not be accepted.) The size is to be 11" X 14". (No Bigger!) A slogan must be on the poster, not exceeding 10 words. The words buddy or boy CAN NOT be used. The words American Legion Auxiliary MUST be used in the design of the poster. Each poster should have a Flanders Field Poppy on it. Watercolors, Crayons, Powder, or oil Paint are the only useable mediums. On the back of the poster include the class of the entry, the contestants name, address, age, and grade of school. The name and number of the Auxiliary Unit sponsoring the poster, along with "Department of New Hampshire" must also be included on the back of the poster. The poster can be the work of only one individual.

NATIONAL AWARDS:

All entries for National Awards must be submitted via electronic form on the alaforveterans.org site. There are different dues dates from March to June.

Junior Member of the Year: (JMOY)

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

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

Presented: One unit in each division

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

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

Presented to: One department in each division

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.

James H Parke Scholarship:

Each Veterans Affairs medical center may nominate one Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) Student Volunteer to be considered for this scholarship. The nominee must have completed 100 hours of regularly scheduled VAVS during a calendar year prior to September 1. The nominee must also be in the 10th grade or above and have not reached their 19th birthday to be considered. Visit www.Volunteer.VA.gov to find more information on this scholarship.

Spirit of Youth Scholarship:

Due March 2026. National will award each State/Department winner \$1,000 scholarship. The National Education Committee will select 5 winners (1 per division) for a \$5,000 scholarship based on a scoring rubric (see alaforveterans.org for more information)

Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship:

Due March 1, 2026. Three \$5,000 scholarships are awarded annually per geographic division. This scholarship is for undergraduate study only at an accredited College or University, and may be used for tuition, books, fees, room, and board.

Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship:

Two \$2500 scholarships will be awarded in each division. To reward those who retain their membership into adulthood, The American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty scholarship to current college students.