

[https://legionnh.org/files/AUXILIARY_EMERGENCY_FUND_plan_of_work_\(1\).pdf](https://legionnh.org/files/AUXILIARY_EMERGENCY_FUND_plan_of_work_(1).pdf)**POPPIES**

PLAN OF WORKS 2023-2024

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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.

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms.

Key Program Statements:

- Promote the Poppy Program and increase revenue.
- Educate your community on the meaning and the history of the poppy.
- Celebrate National Poppy Day.
- Increase the number of poppy makers in your community.

POPPY CORSAGE CONTEST

The Poppy Corsage Contest will be part of the Mid-Winter Conference. Poppies must be fluffed, with the tags taken off of them. (Flowers are to be artificial.) The corsage should be the theme of the National or Department President.

Please keep in mind that not everyone has a huge chest so please make them of a size anyone can wear. The winning corsages will be worn by the Department Officers during Department Convention.

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. Water Colors, 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.

POPPY CENTERPIECE CONTEST

We will be holding the Poppy Centerpiece Contest which is to be held during Department Convention. The winning Centerpiece will be placed on the head table at the Department Convention Banquet. The centerpiece cannot have more than 25 poppies (fluffed and tags removed), must be the theme of either the National or Department President.

LITTLE MISS POPPY CONTEST

(Ages 6-12)

NEW FOR 2023-2024 – 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 the National submission – April 1st for Department submission).
- For National Little Miss Poppy consideration, the Department Chairman must submit a [Little Miss Poppy award electronic application](#) with supporting documentation.
- All entries (for National consideration) 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 Department Chairman is to submit the Department winner.

The Little Miss Poppy (age 6-12) winner may be invited to the ALA National Convention immediately following her selection, **and if she so chooses, will travel at her own expense.**

The winner of the National Little Miss Poppy contest will receive a citation plaque.

MAY IS POPPY MONTH

Don't forget that May is Poppy Month. This is when you should be really promoting and distributing poppies (although you can distribute Poppies any time of the year). If your Post has a canteen, there should always be a donation container on the bar, along with poppies so patrons can have the poppies they want, at any time.

It would be to the advantage of the Unit to get the entire Legion Family involved in poppy distribution. Especially the Juniors. No one can resist a child handing out poppies! Legionnaires also bring in lots of donations simply because people know that veterans are getting the funds!

POPPY DAY is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion Family brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, (this year it is May 24th) wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

Unfortunately, the cost of poppies has risen dramatically this past year. The cost from Department is now \$130 per 1,000, with the tags. This is the cost whether you make them yourself or purchase them already pre-made.

PLEASE! We need help making the poppies. There are only two of us making them right now. If you could order kits and have someone in the Unit make them, it would be a great help. If you know of VETERANS that can make poppies, they could get paid 1 ½ cents apiece. If you need to learn to make poppies, I would be more than happy to get together with you and teach you how to make them. Just give me a call – 603-716-5594. It would be greatly appreciated if you could help us.

RESOURCES

Go to ALAforVeterans – if you have a member's account go into the Poppy Committee and you can find all kinds of ideas, tips, guides. If you do not have a member's account I would strongly urge you to get one. It is simple to sign up – you just need your ALA ID #.