Americanism For 2020-2021

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Americanism is part of our everyday life and it covers many areas. Department President Linda Dupont’s Theme is the snowflake and we will need to be unique in our approach to Americanism this year. We need to honor our servicemen and women everyday as this is part of Americanism.

This year is providing challenges with Covid-19 and we will need to think outside of the box. Social media will be a big tool in helping promote Americanism as a member, a unit and as well as the Department.

Ideas

Members:

1. Publish flag etiquette tips in your local newspaper and on social media account
2. Display an American Flag at your home. Encourage your local business, your place of work, your neighborhood school, your home school classroom, display in your home office and display on your zoom calls or video calls.
3. Purchase American Flag stamps, Encourage others to purchase American Flag Stamps
4. Model respect for our flag at public events if they are being held. Teach children about removing their cap when the National Anthem is played
5. Reach out to schools at the beginning of the school year to give some basic facts about our flag, our national anthem and when we should stand and put our hands over our hearts at parades and ball games. This may need to be done virtually this year as we don’t know how our schools will be proceeding.
6. Volunteer for a local patriotic event. Attend a POW Vigil, March in a Veteran’s Day or Memorial Day Parade, Attend a school’s patriotic event
7. Contact and ask your state and federal representatives to support the flag amendment.
8. Sign up to receive notifications on when to display your flag at half-staff at www.legion.org
9. Get out and Vote. Take your children and grandchildren with you when you vote. Encourage others to vote. Offer to drive a veteran, a senior or help someone obtain an absentee ballot
10. Work with local schools to further education of the Constitution, either whole or in part, such as the bill of Rights. This may need to be done virtually and may need some creativity.
11. Support American Legion Baseball- you can help with statistics, work a concession booth, donate to a team or assist in fundraising or attend a game and cheer on your legion team
12. Support the Oratorical Contest: Help prepare post home to sponsor a local or district contest, offer to be a judge, an escort or timekeeper, help with refreshments, provide transportation for candidates, or help recruit candidates
Unit

1. Work with your legion family to increase respect for the flag in your community; Invite the public to participate in a flag disposal ceremony
2. Teach proper handling, displaying and respect for the American flag as well as our National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Organize a patriotic holiday event or participate in local patriotic events such as marching in a parade
4. Volunteer to keep up the area around the flag pole in your community by planting seasonal flowers and collecting trash. Many communities have an adopt-a-site that your unit can adopt
5. Encourage your legion family members, local businesses and local schools to fly the American Flag, especially on patriotic holidays. Provide local schools with American Flags to display in classrooms or provide mini flags for home school classrooms. Be creative on encouraging local businesses and home owners, and schools to display the American Flag such as a contest as to who has the best flag display
6. Encourage Auxiliary members to contact their state and federal representatives and to ask or send a letter them to support the flag amendment.
7. Support your local or our Department Oratorical Contest: Help prepare post home to sponsor a local or district contest, offer to be a judge, escort or timekeeper, help with refreshments, provide transportation for candidates, or help recruit candidates
8. Assemble pocket flags and distribute to members and to send out to active-duty military overseas. These can be ordered at www.pocketflagproject.com or write to Pocket Flag Project, P.O. Box 740847, Arvada, CO. 80006. You will also need 3x3 zip lock style bags which can be purchased at a local craft store or at discount department stores. These can be given out to nursing home veterans and to active military members.
9. Help older legion family members get out to vote. Provide rides to vote or assistance in obtaining an absentee ballot.
10. Support American Legion Baseball: you can help with statistics, work a concession booth, donate to a team or assist in fundraising or attend a game to cheer on your legion team
11. Participation in the Americanism Essay should be encouraged. This year’s topic is “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families”

Essay Classes:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Word Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>3 and 4</td>
<td>150-250</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>5 and 6</td>
<td>250-300</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>7 and 8</td>
<td>350-400</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>9 and 10</td>
<td>450-500</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>11 and 12</td>
<td>450-50</td>
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</tbody>
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VI  

Students with special needs  

Word count should correspond with student’s grade level

Each unit will choose their winners and submit to Department Chairman by April 1, 2021. Department chairman will then submit winners from submissions to Division Chairman, By April 15, 2020.

**Department of New Hampshire Awards**

District 1 Americanism Plaque- To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 1.

Frederick J Manley – To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 3

Jenelle – To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 4.

District 5- To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 5.

Maella Gleason- To the submitting the best Americanism report in District 6.

Andrews - To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 7.

Larty - To the unit submitting the best Americanism report in District 8.

Anna Joy - To the Unit in Department submitting the best Americanism report

**National Reports**

National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadline and Americanism committee contact

Information may be found on the Americanism committee page on the national website: [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)

A. **Unit Award**: Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program (per division)

- Deadline: June 1, 2021
- Sent to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5pm EST on the deadline listed above.

B. **Americanism Essay Contest**

- 2020-2021 Theme: “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military and their families?”