



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of California

February 2018 Bulletin

Welcome to February. February is officially **AMERICANISM** month. This year is flying by as we are proudly flying our American Flag every day. Our focus right now should be on our Department and National Essay Contests. Here are some tips to assist you in completing your duties for these contests.

Department Essay Contest

Essay Titles by Category

Category 1 - Grades 4-5

Category II - Grades 6-7

Category III - Grades 8-9

Category IV - Grades 10,11,12

Category V - Exceptional Needs

Why We Should Respect America

What Does Community Service Mean to Me?

Why Do We Have the Constitution of the United States?

What Values Should Our Leaders Have?

Why Is America a Great Country?

Unit and District Chairman find the following tools on the ALA Website:

Americanism Essay Contest Instructions

Americanism Essay Contest Rules for Judging

Americanism Essay Contest Judges Score Sheet

Americanism Department Awards

Avoid Common errors that will disqualify entries by including the following on each essay:

Each essay must have a cover sheet.

Essays must show the exact Title as listed above.

Essays must contain the correct number of words as listed in the rules for each category/grade level.

Student Name, Unit and District numbers and word count on back of the essay please.

Important Deadlines

March 2, 2018 - Unit Pick up essays from school.

March 23, 2018 - Unit forward winner only in each group to District Chairman for judging.

April 13, 2018 - District Chairman to forward winner only in each group to Department Chairman for judging.

National Essay Contest Theme

What can I personally do to promote Americanism in my school or community?

Entries for the National Essay Contest must be to the Department Americanism Chairman by April 6, 2018 in order to meet the National Deadline of receipt by April 15, 2018. Don't forget to include the cover sheet. More details can be found in the Plan of Action on the ALA Website.

Additional Americanism Awards

Veronica Spence Award (pertains to Junior members only), and judged by the Department Chairman in the same manner as the Department Americanism Essays, and the **Eliza London Shepard Award** presented for the best Youth Betterment Program.

I missed you all at DEC. Believe me that was my choice of places to be. I would like to thank all of you that helped in my absence. Especially Kathy Smith, Rachell Canelison-Baltad, Susan Baker and Marion Rocha-Carlos.

Please contact me via e-mail if you have any questions. We are here to help! Thank you and happy judging!

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