



American Legion Auxiliary Education Monthly News

December 2023

ALA Education Share Your Story

Be sure to "LIKE" us on Facebook. Help spread the word about your service @ ALA Education Program. This is a closed group so you have to request permission to join. You then have to answer 2 questions to be approved: (1) Are you a member of the ALA? and (2) What is your unit and department (state)?

**Websites with Education Planning
Information:**

www.ALAforVeterans.org

**The Auxiliary has many
tools that aid members in
learning about our
programs.**

ALA Academy

www.alaforveterans.org/ALA-Academy

MISSION TRAINING

Central Division: Cincinnati, OH:
Completed

Eastern Division: Providence, RI:
Completed

Remaining Dates

Northwestern Division: Lincoln, NE
Saturday, February 3, 2024

Southern Division: Nashville, Tenn.
Saturday, February 3, 2024

Western Division: Las Vegas, NV.
Saturday, January 27, 2024

Please register for one of these meetings where you will learn a wealth of information about our programs.

For further information and to register go to
<https://member.legion-aux.org/meetings>

Contacts is the key to ALA in Schools

In almost every situation, relationships matter. It's hard to work with strangers and turning strangers into friends takes some effort. For every unit that has junior members, here's a quick checklist to start identifying contacts at local schools.

1. Look at your membership roster and see if you have any junior members.
2. Ask their parents where their children go to school and what grade they are in.
3. Start the conversation on how parents can become an advocate for citizenship, leadership and patriotism with educators and administrators.
4. Determine if the parents can contact an educator or administrator and arrange a meet-n-greet either in person or via electronic messaging.
5. Acquire some children & youth brochures to give to the designated contacts.
6. Share the following program statements in your conversation or messaging:

- To promote quality education for children, especially for military children, and adults.
- To encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms.
- To provide scholarships for students who desire a college education.
- To support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities.
- To support the Education program and scholarship opportunities of The American Legion.

If the junior members are in high school, please let them know about Girls State and Scholarships. Almost all eyes light up when leadership opportunities and scholarships are mentioned. Since Girls State is a landmark ALA program, ask administrators if you can start an application process to identify students who would make good candidates to attend. It's a good idea to work with your local American Legion Post and partner up on identifying applications for both Girls State and Boys State.

Through it all, parents are the gatekeepers to their children and it's important to be transparent. Once you created a relationship with parents, administrators and educators, you can ask for referrals to other school administrators within the school district and educators at other grade levels.

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Education Resources

(found on the National Education Committee page of the National website under Member Resources)

[Give 10 to Education Citation](#)
(downloadable word doc)

- [Give 10 to Education Suggested Donation Items and Tracking Sheet](#)
(downloadable word doc)
- [ALA Education Facebook Group](#)
- [American Education Week Cards](#)

[ALA National Scholarship FAQs](#)

- [ALA Member FAQs:](#)
<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/education/national-scholarship-resources-faq>
- [Non-ALALA Member FAQs:](#)
<https://www.legion-aux.org/scholarships/faq>

[What Did Your Unit Do for American Education Week?](#)

[Share your picture and events.](#)

Contact is the Key to ALA in Schools continue

Here are some of the programs to help get you started:

1. Veterans in the classroom - arrange for veterans to speak in classrooms or assemblies. What an honor for veterans to share their experience of service not self.
2. Poppy Essay and Poster Contests
3. Oratorical Contests in cooperation with the American Legion.
4. A full list of local, department and national scholarships.
5. Ask students to volunteer (one example is Silver Cord) at your local ALA events.

Dates are important too - a perfect opportunity to introduce the American Legion Auxiliary. Here are a couple of examples for next year:

- Purple Up! Day for Military Children - Apr. 15, 2024
- Teacher Appreciation Week - May 6-10, 2024

Finally, with a strong partnership with the local school district, may help with membership. The ability to identify and ask junior members who are eligible to join the ALA helps with our overall mission.



Cookies donated by Colorado Legion Family Post #2 for American Education Week

American Education Week Highlights:

Colorado: Unit 2 Honored the Support Staff, Administrators and teachers during American Education Week by donating cookies.

Georgia: Unit 233 Provided staff and teachers with cookies

Maryland: Unit #145 recognized the Teachers' Aides at local school and presented them with THANK YOU Cards

Texas: Unit 511 visited school that focuses on students with disabilities and provided goodie bags to staff

Arkansas: Unit 91 Donated Disinfect wipes, hand sanitizer, tissues and pencils