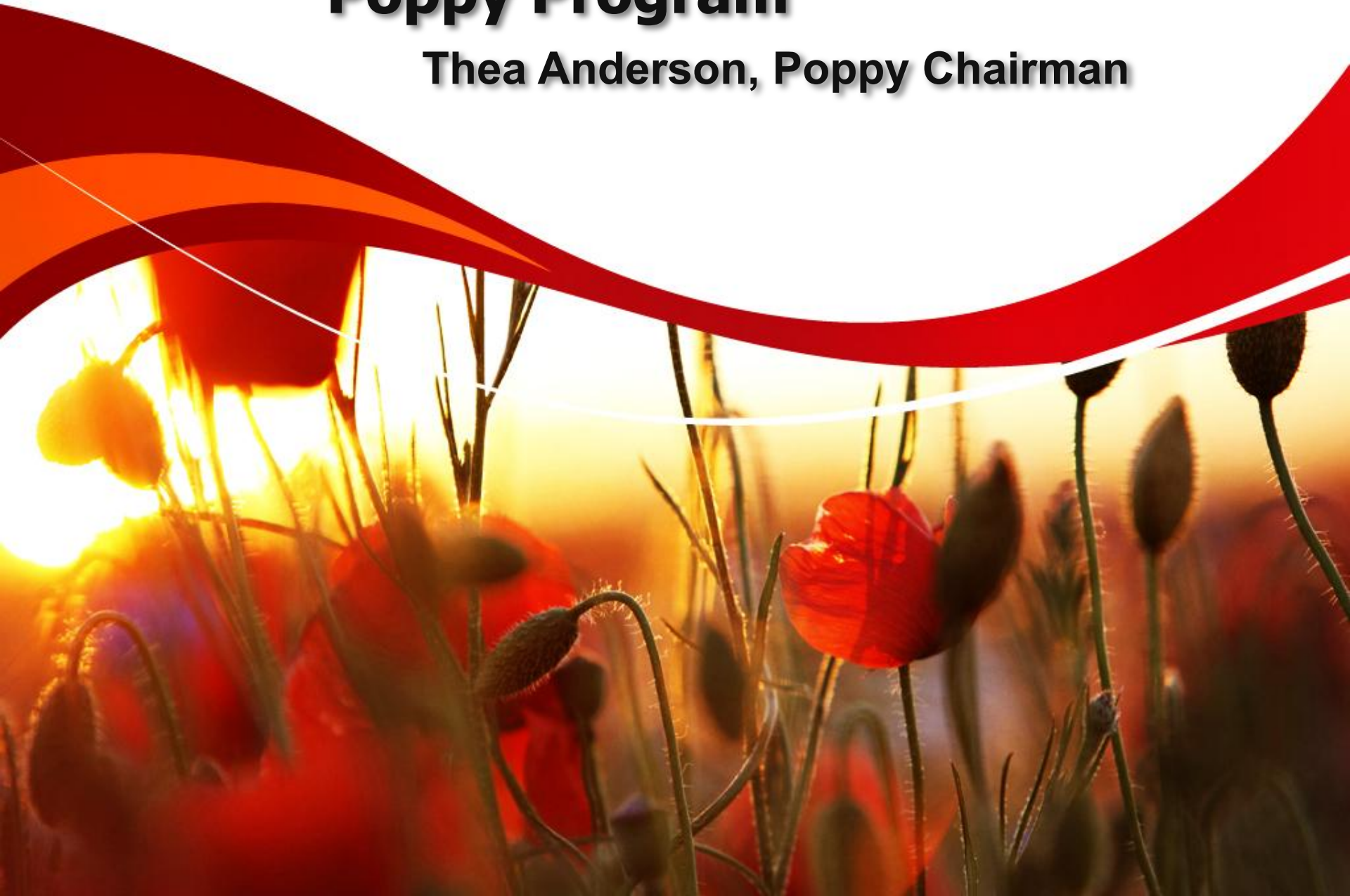


Poppy Program

Thea Anderson, Poppy Chairman



Permitted Use of Poppy Funds

- For rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the US Armed Forces after April 6, 1917
- For the welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period
- For the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals
- For the welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical needs are clear
- For poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy Fund
- For donations to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation for benefit of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- For supporting local or National Honor Flights
- For supporting the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) to combat food insecurity experienced by our service members and their families.



Poppy Funds CANNOT Be Used For:

- Any general operating fund of a department, unit, or post
- Any community service project not directly benefiting the welfare of an individual veteran/military servicemember or the welfare of his/her family
- General maintenance, enhancement or improvement projects of American Legion or Auxiliary facilities, including adding ramp(s) to a post home
- Investments, even those that would bring profit to the unit or post
- POW/MIA programs
- Memberships, including other veteran support organizations such as Gold Star Mothers
- Contributions to, or payouts from, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- ALA Girls State/ALA Girls Nation fees
- Flags or flagpoles
- Scholarships which do not restrict eligibility solely to military service members or their children, or where the financial need is not clear
- Mileage, travel, or lodging expenses; registration of conference fees; or costs incurred by a person-- including ALA members, volunteers, and staff--to attend any meeting, conference, or event about veterans
- Attire or uniforms used by volunteers or staff in promoting or conducting ALA program activity or business
- Use of poppy funds is allowable for care packages ONLY when it is for a welfare need, such as first aid topical treatment or 86 American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guide vital hygiene items, as opposed to comfort needs, such as leisure items like baked goods or books



Important Websites

- <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Poppy-Poster-Contest>
- <https://www.legion-aux.org/poppy> -coloring book
- <https://www.legion-aux.org/Little-Miss-Poppy-Award-Form>
- <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/poppy/poppy-days> -resources



Important Dates

- Department Chairman Report due to the National Committee by May 15.
- National Poppy Day is May 24, 2024.
- Department and Unit Award Nomination Form Completed and Submitted by June 1.
- Poppy Poster Contest All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to the national division chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Little Miss Poppy Department Poppy chairman submits the name, address, unit, and department of the contestant along with a scrapbook to her national division Poppy chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Poppy Program (per division) Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.
- Department Award: Best Department Poppy Program (per division) Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on June 1



Poppy Contest

- ALA Units sponsors poppy poster contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including ALA Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the local ALA unit.
- Grade levels from 2nd to 12th grade are divided into seven classes (listed above) with one additional class for "Best Overall" in each division. Contest Classes:
 - Class I: Grades 2 and 3
 - Class II: Grades 4 and 5
 - Class III: Grades 6 and 7
 - Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
 - Class V: Grades 10 and 11
 - Class VI: Grade 12
 - Class VII: Students with special needs
- One award in each of the eight classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.
- Please communicate to your Units the date by which you need the entries submitted to you so that you have time to judge and forward ONE from each class to me by the deadline of June 1, 2024.
- I will review the Poppy Poster submissions and select ONE Poppy Poster Southern Division winner from each class from the properly submitted posters.
- The rules, judging criteria and other key information about the Poppy Poster Contest is available here: <https://member.legion-aux.org/national-poppy-poster-contest>. > We want to encourage ALL Department Units to have a Poppy Poster Contest this year! We want to have 100% participation this year!



Little Miss Poppy Contest

- 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 National Little Miss Poppy consideration, participants must submit a Little Miss Poppy award electronic application with supporting documentation.
- All entries 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/>.



Judging Criteria For Little Miss Poppy Contest

- 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 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.

