

# National Americanism Award

2025-2026

## Criteria and Format

All the books will be bound books, scrapbooks, or albums (Americanism Report). The reports will be based on events from June 1, 2025, to May 31, 2026. The books are to be arranged according to sections with appropriate documentation. Each section will have a cover sheet detailing the contents of that section. Use only the sections your Detachment participated in. Not all books will have all sections completed. This uniformity will assist the committee in giving credit for all activities reported.

All Americanism Reports must be hand delivered to the Americanism Committee by 1500 on Tuesday of the National Convention. All Americanism Reports (Albums) will be returned and receipted to your Representative following the judging and presentation of awards.

Judging will begin following the close of business on Tuesday.

Competition for awards will be based on the total detachment strength as of June 30, 2025 (for the 2025-2026 Americanism Report).

Awards will be based on detachment strength as follows:

Category I (Platoon Size) Strength of 15 to 50

Category II (Company Size) Strength of 51 to 100

Category III (Battalion Size) Strength of 101 and above

First, second, and third place winners in each category will receive a plaque. All other entries will receive an Americanism certificate.

The top overall award, the Gil Gray Award, will receive a special plaque.

Note: Newly formed Detachments will be competing in Category 1, regardless of strength.

All Americanism reports must be organized into sections.

Activities and photos in the album shall be limited to the events during the judged year only. Use appropriate captions (names, occasions, etc.) to relate photos to section activities.

The Gil Grey Award is the most distinguished award the winning detachment can obtain, which shows their hard work and Esprit de Corps. As the "Marine of the Year" is the most

prestigious award for an individual member, so is an Americanism Award for the Detachment. It exemplifies the dedication and contribution to the strength and integrity of our beloved Marine Corps League and is dedicated to all the members of the winning Detachment. Receiving this award is an achievement to be treasured.

Committee: Chris Taylor and Dr. Jennifer Spencer

Any questions, contact: Chris: [taylor.christopher09@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.christopher09@gmail.com) or Dr. Jen [perkij999@gmail.com](mailto:perkij999@gmail.com)

## Addendum to the Americanism Rules

### Sections

The entry book shall be divided into six (6) Sections as follows:

#### *Section 1*

##### Detachment

Examples of content

Activities specific to your detachment: members, installations, ceremonies, VAVS activities, MC Ball, visits to veterans at nursing homes, Marine of the year, auxiliary unit supports, detachment activities that the public is invited to attend, or are official detachment events.

#### *Section 2*

##### Promotions

Examples of content

Programs or services provided by the detachment: Marine for Life Program, Marine Helping Marines Program, detachment foundations, honor guard, firing squad, bugler, color guard, etc.

#### *Section 3*

##### Attendance

Examples of content

Detachment attendance and/or participation in regional or national events: department conventions that your detachment attended, national convention, and division conference

that your detachment attended or hosted. Include any detachment members who are part of the staff of these regional or national events.

#### *Section 4*

##### Programs

###### Examples of content

Activities that support other detachments or organizations: recruiting programs your detachment held, membership events, BBQs, picnics, Rose Programs, assisted in change of command for a reserve unit or any other branch of the service, a welcome home event, or other events, activities with other veteran groups, support of a Devil Dog Pound, volunteered at State Fairs or Military Expos, supports veteran children or has candidates for the Chapel of Four Chaplains.

#### *Section 5*

##### Community events or support

###### Examples of content

Activities that support the community: Toy for Tots, town BBQ, parades, ceremonies or any other civic events your detachment attended.

#### *Section 6*

##### Youth

###### Examples of content

Activities that serve youth: youth programs, Eagle Scout honor courts, scholarship programs, student awards, Young Marines, JROTC, respect for the flag classes, school visits to meet with students about being in the service or your veterans' group.

#### Summary

In all cases, you are not limited to what is shown on this list, nor is any one a requirement. These are only suggestions. You must have at least one section in your book, and number your section(s). No detachment needs to have all five sections.

#### Helpful Hints:

-Don't be too wordy talking about the event.

- Photographs should be in focus and the subject centered.
- Only include one or two photos per event.
- Filling your section with tons of repeat photos will not improve your chances of winning.
- Everything should be dated and include location, people in the photo, and what is going on in the photo.
- Include copies of any documentation of the event if possible.

The 12-month period to be covered is from one National Convention (August) to the following National Convention (August). You do NOT need to cover every month.

Note - These rules apply to departments as well as detachments.

See below for the cover page that is to be included with each submission.

National Americanism Award

Cover Page

Marine Corps League

Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Detachment Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of \_\_\_\_\_

Total Detachment Strength June 30, 2025 (Circle one)

Category I (Platoon Size) Strength of 15 to 50

Category II (Company Size) Strength of 51 to 100

Category III (Battalion Size) Strength of 101 and above

The Americanism books will be organized in sections with appropriate documentation.

Each section will have a cover sheet explaining the contents of that section. Not all detachments will cover every section.

The detachment commandant and detachment Americanism chairman MUST sign this page.

This will be the first page of your book.

Your Americanism book MUST BE HANDED INTO THE Americanism Committee no later than 1500 on Tuesday of the Convention. (Location to be announced at Convention)

Judging will commence at the end of business on Tuesday.

Books will be available to pick up after the Americanism Awards are presented, usually on Thursday of the Convention. For information/clarification, please see the Criteria and Format sheet.

**THIS FORM MUST BE IN THE FRONT OF YOUR AMERICANISM BOOK AND SIGNED**

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Detachment Commandant

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Americanism Chairman