

## HOW DO I START A POSTER CONTEST?

1. Review the rules and classes for this project.
2. Do you have enough time or enough help to complete this project.
3. Start the project prior to the start of school if possible.
4. Survey the schools in your area.
5. How many can you handle adequately.
6. Get to know the principals and superintendents.
7. Have a copy of the rules to disseminate.
8. Meet with one of them to discuss the project.
9. Ask who they might consider as likely candidates to want to participate.
10. Meet with the teacher to discuss and promote the project.
11. Make sure you set your end date well in advance of the time you need to turn in your project.
12. Regularly check on the progress of the contestants
13. Have a judging strategy. Who, when, where.
14. Have a plan for returning those posters you will not be advancing.
15. Coordinate a plan to award the local winners in conjunction with the department chair.
16. Be sure you have a certificate for the teachers and the school participating.
17. Complete the national cover sheet for the posters that are winners only and send with the original posters.
18. Take photos of the posters for next year's promotion of the project.
19. Send in the original winning posters to the chair prior to the date stipulated.
20. Watch the national poppy pre-convention meeting for results.

## **Poppy Poster Contest Rules**

Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups — including Junior members — may participate under direct supervision of the unit.

### **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 defined as:
  - a. Those in special education classes.
  - b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
  - c. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

### **Poppy Poster Requirements**

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles “a”, “and,” “an”, “the” are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a red poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
  - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
  - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
  - 10% - neatness
7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils, and markers.
8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age, and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

### **Poppy Poster Contest Judging and Awards**

1. Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.
3. Unit members should follow deadlines and process for the department. All department entries are due to the division chairman by June 1.
4. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.
5. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.



## POPPY POSTER CONTEST COVER SHEET

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors a Poppy Poster Contest for students in grades 2-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into seven classes. One award in each of the seven 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. National winners will be posted at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) after national convention.

### Poster Classes:

Class	Grade Level
I	2 and 3
II	4 and 5
III	6 and 7
IV	8 and 9
V	10 and 11
VI	12
VII	Students with special needs

Class competing in: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Due date for student to return to ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Poppy Chairman/President: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*Department winner due to National Poppy Division Chairman by June 1*