



## **Americanism Award Deadlines 2021-2022**

I failed to provide the deadline dates for Unit Awards in my Americanism Plan of Action. I apologize for this oversight and am including that information in this document. As most of you know, there are three awards each year in the Americanism program: they are the **Americanism Essay Contest**, the **Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program**, and the **Best Americanism Department Program**.

All reports must be sent to me at the address listed on the last page. E-mails can and will be accepted. Deadlines for entry are as follows:

### **Americanism Essay Contest**

Due to Department Chairman by April 1, 2022

Due to National by April 15, 2022

### **Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Americanism Program**

Due to Department Chairman by May 15, 2022

Due to National by June 1, 2022

### **Best Unit Americanism Department Program**

Due to Department Chairman by May 15, 2022

Due to National by June 1, 2022

The cover sheets for the Americanism Essay Contest, Dorothy Pearl Award and Unit Award are attached as pdf files to this document.

I have also included information on **The American Legion Oratorical Contest**. It is available to any student grades 9 through 12. Contestants submit their information directly to the Oklahoma American Legion Department offices. For information and deadline dates contact **Oratorical Chairman, Rob Willis, 405-370-5331, [rob.willis61@outlook.com](mailto:rob.willis61@outlook.com)**.

## 2021-2022 Americanism Essay Contest

**Essay Title:** *“How can we support families who provide care to their Veterans?”*

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six 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 convention.

Information on grade levels and number of words per essay can be found online on the Essay Contest Cover Sheet (attached). **Do not forget to include the cover sheet with your report.**

## 2021-2022 Dorothy Pearl Outstanding Unit Americanism Program Award

This award is for the most outstanding individual or unit member who has dedicated themselves to the Americanism program throughout the year. Please write a narrative report, including the cover sheet and forward to me so that I can, in turn, submit it to National. This narrative report should share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission! Pictures can be included and are most welcome. We all know that a “picture says a thousand words”. Your story may inspire another member into service. It also helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter. **Do not forget to include the cover sheet with your report.**

## 2021-2022 Best Unit Americanism Department Program Award

This award is for the most outstanding unit that has dedicated themselves to the Americanism program throughout the year. It is similar the Dorothy Pearl Award but is for the entire unit. It should include a narrative report about your Unit’s efforts and achievements in the Americanism program. Write about the positive impact your unit has had on our mission! Pictures can be included and are most welcome. Reports will be judged on a unit by unit basis and the best report will be forwarded to National for consideration. **Do not forget to include the cover sheet with your report.**

## The American Legion Oratorical Contest

I want to remind and encourage members to consider entering The American Legion Oratorical Contest which is available to high school students grades 9 through 12. A brief overview follows:

**Eligibility:** Eligible participants must be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. All contestants must be bona fide students under the age of 20 years on the date of the national contest who is presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or home school) commencing with grade 9 and terminating with grade 12. Students must be enrolled in high school or junior high school during the time of participation.

**The Prepared Oration:** The oration must be on some aspect of the Constitution, with emphasis on a citizen's duties and obligations to our government. The same subject and oration used in the department contest must be used in the national contest. Quotations must always be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than 10 words in length, the author's name must be given in the manuscript and cited orally. It is acceptable to utilize or incorporate short phrases in a foreign language to develop the argument, establish a point, etc. It should be understood that the vast majority of the prepared oration and/or assigned topic must still be delivered in English. Singing is not permitted and will result in immediate disqualification. The contestant may, however, quote a verse(s) of a song(s) provided proper attribution is made.

I am always available to help with information you may need to get the job done and really work the Americanism Program. Again, I apologize for omitting these deadlines from the Americanism Plan of Action Package. Please call me with any questions or if you need help with online websites.

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