



Are you up for the challenge?

Poppy Poster Contest 2025

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1038 is pleased to announce our sixth annual Poppy Poster Contest.

Poppy Poster Contest for Grades 2nd – 12th

Contest has seven classes: Class I (grades 2 & 3), Class II (grades 4 & 5), Class III (grades 6 & 7), Grade IV (grades 8 & 9), Class V (grades 10 & 11), Class VI (grade 12), Class VII (students with special needs)

Poppy Poster Contest Requirements and Rules

- 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.
- The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
- Each poster must include a picture of the red poppy.
- The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. Drawing paper is not accepted. If poster board is needed, please send an email to: ALAunit1038ny@gmail.com
- Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils, and markers.
- Written in ink on the back of the poster shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age, and grade of the contestant, plus the words “American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York” & “Adolph Pfister Unit 1038.”
- The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
- Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
 - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
 - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
 - 10% - neatness
- 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 compensation or permission.
- The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
- The label “In Memoriam” from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

Winners

- The artwork of 1st place winners of each class will be displayed on the American Legion Post 1038’s website and receive a \$50.00 gift card prize.
- All contestants will receive an American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1038 certificate of participation.
- Winners will then compete in the Westchester County American Legion Auxiliary competition if there are entries from other schools submitted in the same class. If there are no submissions from other Westchester County schools, the poster will automatically be entered into the American Legion Auxiliary Department of New York competition.
- Winners of the ALA Dept. of NY competition continue to the national competition which provides a citation for the most outstanding poster in each class within five geographical divisions.

Entry Date: Friday, March 14, 2025

Poster entries along with the completed ***Parent Approval Form*** should be dropped in the main office of your school with a note to the attention of Mrs. Castro, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1038 - Valhalla.

Website

To view previous Poppy Poster winner’s entries, go to: <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Poppy-Poster-Contest>

ALPost1038ny.org

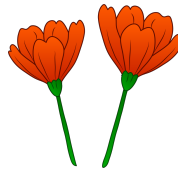
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1038 Poppy Poster Chairs – Mrs. Emmy Creskey

Email: ALAunit1038ny@gmail.com

The Poppy Story

From the battlefields of World War I, weary soldiers brought home the memory of a barren landscape transformed by wild poppies, red as the blood that had soaked the soil. By that miracle of nature, the spirit of their lost comrades lived on. The poppy became a symbol of the sacrifice of lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain. The American Legion Auxiliary poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of four wars, its petals of paper bound together for veterans by veterans, reminding America each year that the men and women who have served and died for their country deserve to be remembered. The poppy, as a memorial flower to the war dead, can be traced to a single individual, Moina Michael. She was so moved by Lt. Col. McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields," that she wrote a response:

... the blood of heroes never dies
But lends a luster to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders' Fields.



On impulse, she bought a bouquet of poppies – all that New York City's Wanamaker's Department Store had – and handed them to businessmen meeting at the New York YMCA where she worked. She asked them to wear the poppy as a tribute to the fallen. That was November 1918. World War I was over, but America's sons would rest forever "in Flanders' Fields." Later she would spearhead a campaign that would result in the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrifice.

In Flanders Fields

"In Flanders Fields" is a war poem in the form of a rondeau, written during the First World War by Canadian physician and Lt. Col. John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on May 3, 1915, after presiding over the funeral of friend and fellow soldier Alexis Helmer, who died during the Second Battle of Ypres.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row That
mark our place; and in the sky The larks,
still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid
the guns below

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie in
Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you
from failing hands we throw The torch; be
yours to hold it high If ye break faith with
us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

–Lt. Col. John McCrae