



Department of California
District 28

Americanism
September 19, 2023

Star Spangled Kids is the American Legion Auxiliary initiative to education our youth about United States history, Americanism, and the U.S. Constitution. I've received a kit from our Department Chairman and will be getting more pieces to be able to pass the kits onto the Units before our next meeting. The Kit includes various items that make teaching our youth about patriotism fun. National is gathering data on how these items were used as well as how they have helped to foster plans for teaching children in our communities.

Most of us don't realize there are actually two Americanism Essay Contests. The National Americanism Essay and Department Americanism Essay.

The National Americanism Essay Contest is divided into 6 classes based on ages or students with Special Needs, but only has one question. The Essay title for this year is "What does Freedom mean to you?" Each participant will receive a certificate. The Unit winner in each of the 6 classes will receive \$10 and a citation. Divisional level winners in each of the 6 classes will receive \$50 and a \$50 honorarium in the student's name to the National Presidents' Children of Warriors Scholarship Fund.

The Department Americanism Essay contest is divided into 5 Classes and unlike the National Contest we have different titles for each class.

Class 1- Grades 4 & 5- Why do we honor the flag?

Class 2- Grades 6 & 7- Why is voting important?

Class 3- Grades 8 & 9- Who is responsible to keep our country safe?

Class 4- Grades 10, 11, & 12- Is service to our country important?

Class 5- Exceptional Needs- How should the flag be disposed of?

Each class is awarded a 1st and 2nd place winner who can receive money or educational grants.

Our Department Chairman has put out a challenge. Send Cindy Rogers a picture of your best patriotic Veteran's Day picture by December 1, 2023 to receive a gift from her. Pictures should be sent to Cindy at cindyrogers.25dist@gmail.com.

Your mid-year reports are due to District by December 1st. Please get me reports so I can share your information with Department.

Elizabeth Doidge, Chairman