



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

### 2023-2024 Junior Activities Program Engagement Plan

Laura Calteux, Department Chairman  
7012 W. Squire Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53220  
414-379-2943  
[lauracalteux@yahoo.com](mailto:lauracalteux@yahoo.com)

Char Kiesling, Department Co-Chairman  
868 Tumblebrook Road  
Neenah, WI 54956  
[char.kiesling@gmail.com](mailto:char.kiesling@gmail.com)

#### PURPOSE

The Junior Activities Program is to inspire active participation in members aged 17 and under so they become engaging productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.

#### DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES

- March 15<sup>th</sup>: Units submit nominations for Unit Junior Member of the Year to Department Chairman.
- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Submit Junior Activities Award Cover Sheet with narrative for judging as Most Outstanding Unit Junior Activities Program to the Department Chairman.
- To be considered for a national award, the unit must submit their entry with a National Award Cover sheet to the Department Chairman. The National Award Cover sheet will be posted on the department website ([www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org)) under the Program Info tab.
- August 1-15: Honorary National Junior Division Vice President elections. Open to any Junior who attended a 2023-2024 National Junior Meeting. Winners will be announced at National Convention.

#### GET INVOLVED

1. Inspire active participation in Junior members so they will become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their ALA membership into adulthood.
  - a. Mission-related activities:
    - Distribute poppies.
    - Organize and participate in service projects.
    - Offer computer technology help to veterans and senior members.
    - Offer help to military families and help military kids entering a new school.

- b. Leadership training:
  - Shadow senior member officers at meetings and hold an appropriate unit office.
  - Post colors at meetings, conferences, and conventions.
  - Lead opening ceremonies (pledge, prayers, national anthem, ALA preamble).
  - Shadow senior chairmen and assist with their program plans.
  - Encourage Junior members to attend ALA Badger Girls State.
2. Encourage Junior members to attend the Department Junior Conferences.
3. Build the Junior Activities program one member at a time by giving Junior members a voice and opportunity to participate.
  - Plan mission-related activities that are interesting and inspiring to Juniors.
  - Hold ceremonies to recognize Juniors who will move to ALA senior membership status.
  - Offer for Unit to pay first year of senior membership to encourage retention.
  - Share information about Department and National Scholarship opportunities
  - Pair older Juniors with less experienced Juniors to promote mentorship.
4. Promote and encourage Junior participation in the ALA's national Junior Member of the Year Award.
  - There are five Division Junior Members of the Year. One of the five Division Junior Members of the Year will be selected as the National Junior Members of the Year.
  - Each Division Junior Member of the Year will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The National Junior Member of the Year will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and be invited to the national convention.
  - The scholarship is to reward ALA Junior members who are contributing to the organization and our mission, with a long-term goal of increasing Junior participation.
5. Promote and encourage Junior participation in the ALA Patch Program to teach them about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. Work with the Sons of the American Legion Squadron Leaders to inform them of the opportunity for young SAL members to participate in the ALA Patch Program.
6. Make Junior meetings fun and informative.
  - a. Encourage friendships and mentoring by planning fun team-building activities (games, learning Junior songs, etc.) and provide age-appropriate crafts.
  - b. Highlight the numerous ALA learning opportunities available to members in the ALA Academy, including the ALA Juniors.

**Resources:**

- For suggestions on how to implement this program, please contact the Department Chairmen listed at the beginning of this Program Engagement Plan.
- Junior Activities Handbook: [www.amlegionauxwi.org/junioractivities](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org/junioractivities)
- National Junior Meetings: [member.legion-aux.org/meetings/national-junior-meetings](http://member.legion-aux.org/meetings/national-junior-meetings)
- ALA Academy: [member.legion-aux.org/member/online-training](http://member.legion-aux.org/member/online-training)
- Junior Member of the Year: [member.legion-aux.org/Junior-Member-of-the-Year](http://member.legion-aux.org/Junior-Member-of-the-Year)
- ALA's Junior Activities Facebook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/alacentraldivisionjuniors/>



**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Wisconsin  
2023-2024 Junior Activities Award Cover Sheet for Units**

*Send completed form to:*

Laura Calteux, Department Chairman  
7012 W. Squire Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53220  
414-379-2943  
[lauracalteux@yahoo.com](mailto:lauracalteux@yahoo.com)

Committee sponsoring award: **JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. Unit award certificates will be completed using the information given on this sheet, so please print legibly.

**Provide the following, including the complete name of your unit, if you are applying for a Unit award at the Department and/or National level:**

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_ City Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Full official unit name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit president/chairman (circle one) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ ALA member ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_