

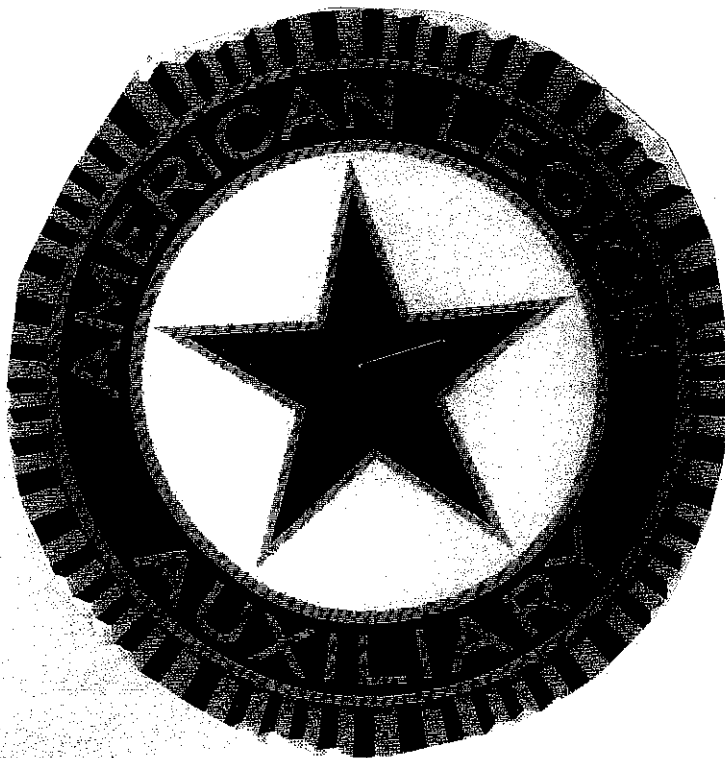


PA American Legion Essay Contest for 2023, is "What Does Americanism Mean To Me? and the Local essay contest theme is "Can Local Media Effect Some's Life."

The PA American Legion Auxiliary 2023 Americanism Essay Contest theme is "What Does Patriotism mean to you."

The essays are due to the local American Legion Post 298 in Mifflintown by December 12, 2022. Prizes to be awarded will be 1st place \$50.00, 2nd place 25.00, and 3rd place will be \$20.00.

Please return essays to Sue Shelley at EJHS by Monday, December 12, 2022  
Contact [sshelley@jcsdk12.org](mailto:sshelley@jcsdk12.org) for any questions.



As American Legionnaires, we fully believe that education is the cornerstone upon which the future of America is built. Education becomes the first requisite of good citizenship and the relationship of The American Legion to Pennsylvania citizens is of prime importance as a means of keeping us a free civilization.

Our approach to supporting solid educational principles is direct and positive. We agree with the current PA Department of Education initiative of "writing across the curriculum" and reward the efforts of involved students through our annual essay scholarship program.

Through the annual Department of Pennsylvania American Legion Essay scholarship contest, students are provided an opportunity to show case their talents and abilities in English by using originality, accuracy and research as evidence, while learning that the responsibilities and duties of good citizenship can be both rewarding and fun.

Since the inception of the Department of Pennsylvania state Essay Contest in 1935, The American Legion has awarded well over \$500,000 in scholarships, while local American Legion Posts, counties, Districts and Sections have also offered suitable awards and prizes for their respective best essay winners as well.

For more information on participating in the Department of Pennsylvania's American Legion Essay Contest, visit <https://pa-legion.com/programs/student-and-youth/essay-program/>

## The American Legion Essay Committee

**Chairman:** James Fulton, Sr.  
816 Greenfield Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
(412) 216-4063  
[jfulton65@yahoo.com](mailto:jfulton65@yahoo.com)

**Sectional Vice Chairmen:**  
**East:** Darryl Johnson, 16 Charles Pt  
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**West:** Ken Vybral, Sr, 2439 Arlington St.  
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**Central:** John Minito, 705 Quaker Cir, Apt 1  
Lewisberry, PA 17339 (717) 576-1726  
[jminito@pttd.net](mailto:jminito@pttd.net)

### POSTS

*If HAVE county representation please  
Call your County Commander for the winner  
to move to the next level. (As listed in the  
current American Legion Directory).*

*If NO county representation please  
Call your District Essay Chairperson for the  
winner to move to the next level. (As listed  
in the current American Legion Directory).*

*If anyone has any questions or concerns  
about rules or procedures PLEASE  
Call the Essay Chairman or another  
Committee member listed above.*



**"WHAT DOES AMERICANISM  
MEAN TO ME?"**

**2023**

**PENNSYLVANIA  
AMERICAN LEGION**

**88<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**ESSAY CONTEST**

FOR GRADES 9-12

**The American Legion  
Department of Pennsylvania  
PO Box 2324  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2324  
(717) 730-9100  
[www.pa-legion.com](http://www.pa-legion.com)**



PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION

6<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

2023 ESSAY CONTEST



**"CAN SOCIAL MEDIA EFFECT SOMEONE'S LIFE?"**

1. Any student enrolled in grades 6 through 8 in a public, private, parochial, cyber charter school, or who is home schooled in Pennsylvania is eligible to participate.
2. All essays **MUST** have a cover page containing the following information:
  - Essay Title (As stated on this page – do not change it or you will be disqualified).
  - Student's Name, address, telephone, & email address (if applicable).
  - The Sponsoring American Legion Post's number, name & location.
    - To locate a local post: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)
    - Find a Post, Enter city, state and zip code.
  - A Parent or guardian's name and address.
3. The title must appear on all pages of the essay, as well as the cover page.
4. ALL essays must be no less than 500 words and no more than 1,000 words.
5. Typewritten essays are preferred but not required.
6. Essays shall be judged on the following:
  - Proper English structure
  - Accuracy
  - Extent of information
  - Originality - Any material not original must be cited in a bibliography for the information of the judges, stating publication, volume, page, date, publisher, and author.
7. Students must certify that essays are prepared without any assistance other than that provided for all members of their class. Lack of the certification will result in a disqualification.
8. The school may determine its own winner(s) and submit the winning essay(s) to the sponsoring American Legion Post(s) for judging no later than February 5, 2023. The local post shall determine when the contest will be held and types of awards to be presented
9. The Pennsylvania American Legion Essay Program, as any program conducted by The American Legion, is designed to provide balanced judging. It is suggested that at least three (3) qualified judges be used.
10. Questions on this Essay Contest can be directed to the Chairman.

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or

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**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST  
2023 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) 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.

**Essay Title:** *"What does patriotism mean to you?"*

**Essay Classes:**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

**Essay Checklist:**

- ☐ Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- ☐ Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- ☐ Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2023*

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Pennsylvania  
2023 Americanism Essay Contest Rules and Instructions**

1. MOST IMPORTANT! You **must** use the 2023 National Essay Cover Sheet **ONLY!**
2. Essays must be submitted to the sponsoring Units by February 20, 2023. The Unit Americanism Chairperson shall judge and submit **ONLY** one essay from each essay class after verifying the Unit and chairpersons' information on the essay cover. Winning essays will need to be submitted to the Council Americanism Chairperson by March 6, 2023.
3. The Council Americanism Chairperson will judge and submit **ONLY** one essay from each class to the Americanism Sectional Vice Chairperson by March 20, 2023.
4. The Americanism Sectional Vice Chairperson will judge and submit **ONLY** one essay from each essay class to the Department Americanism Chairperson by April 1, 2023.

Essay Classes	Grade Level	Word Count
1	3 and 4	150-250
2	5 and 6	250-300
3	7 and 8	350-400
4	9 and 10	450-500
5	11 and 12	450-500

6 Students with special needs, word count should correspond with student's grade level.

The following point system will be used for judging:

50% Content  
20% English  
10% Originality  
10% Neatness  
10% Spelling

Department Awards for each Class:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25.00

**Sectional Vice Chairpersons':**

**West:**

Karen Greggs (Unit 114)  
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**Central:**

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**Department Chairperson:**

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[frances\\_keener@yahoo.com](mailto:frances_keener@yahoo.com)