ALA Juniors and young SAL program

Chair Jennifer McLeod

Committee Taylor Post Paguin and Caitlyn Corson

Junior assistant Sophia Kannenberg

Dates to Remember

April 15: Purple Up! Day for Military Children

May 15: Department chairmen report due to division chairmen, cc: national chairman
Department deadline is different.

June 1: Awards submissions due, including Junior Member of the Year

Member Award: Junior Member of the Year

One national JMOY will win a $5,000 scholarship and a trip to the ALA's National Convention.

Four division JMOY winners will receive a $1,000 scholarship.

Nominees must have been a Junior member at the start of the current ALA administrative year.

Juniors must be at least in eighth or eighth-grade equivalent and may win only once.

Juniors may be nominated by any member, unit, or department.

The narrative should detail the Junior nominee's ALA participation and activities during the past year. Document with photographs, screenshots, and other evidence of Junior's ALA participation and activities.

All entries must be submitted via electronic form by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.

Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Junior Activities Patch Resources

Patch Program PURPLE LEVEL: Pre-School Age 3 - Kindergarten

Patch Program RED LEVEL: 1st – 4th Grades

Patch Program GOLD LEVEL: 5th – 8th Grades

Patch Program BLUE LEVEL: 9th – 12th

Not all patch levels cover all the programs.

Information on the spirit of youth patch is in the packet.

At the 2024-2025 national Junior meetings, Juniors and young Sons of The American Legion participants learned more about Wreaths Across America. The national ALA's partnership with WAA began in August 2023 when the two organizations joined forces to build a stronger awareness of each group's common missions while supporting fundraising efforts nationwide.

The young members made miniature wreaths to take home and use as talking points about WAA. They also watched a video on how the wreaths are made and the meaning behind each piece.

Ten balsam bouquets make up each veteran's wreath, representing the 10 special qualities our veterans embody:

1. Their ***belief*** in a greater good.
2. Their ***love*** for each other.
3. Their ***strength***, work ethic, and character.
4. Their ***honesty*** and integrity.
5. Their ***humility***, selflessness, and modesty.
6. Their ***ambitions*** and aspirations.
7. Their ***optimism*** for America.
8. Their ***concern*** for the future.
9. Their ***pride*** in their duties.
10. Their ***hopes and dreams*** that didn't always come true, but left them with no regrets.

Ready to make your own wreath?

SUPPLIES:

- Pine garland, 12”-18” length (Amazon has precut 14”)
- 3/8” width red velvet ribbon, cut to a 12-18” length

STEPS:
1. Bend the garland into a circle and twist the ends to secure it.
2. Take one ribbon, loop around the wreath, and knot the ends together to make a hanger.
3. Take the second ribbon and tie a bow around the wreath

Keep your eye out for fundraisers. We will be attempting to get a buddy bench.

All upcoming fundraisers will be in the Auxiliaire.