

Education

2010-2011 National President's Theme: The Power of One
2010-2011 Department President's Theme: It is Great to be an American

Plan of Action: Education Committee

Purpose: To promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children.

Committee Contact Information



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Education

Department Objectives

1. **Objective:** Focus attention on educational and scholarship opportunities for military children, whether their parent(s) are active duty or reserve.

Action Steps

- a. Give 10 to Education program: Units can contribute supplies to classrooms in their community. Priority can be given to schools on military bases, military schools or military Family Support Groups to provide Give 10 items to military families in your area.
 - b. Participate in the United Through Reading (www.Unitedthroughreading.org)
 - c. Seek out local opportunities for scholarships and share with the military members in your community.
2. **Objective:** Educate school administrators about the mental health issues facing children of our military.

Action Steps

- a. Distribute ALA KIDDS flyer at education conferences and offer to connect teacher/administrators with mental health resources where they can refer military children.
3. **Objective:** Enhance respect for the sacrifices of our military heroes among school children by scheduling Veterans in the Classroom programs at your local school.

Action Steps

- a. Collaborate with your American Legion counterparts in this effort.
- b. Provide information about the challenges faced by military families (particularly the children) to teachers so they can prepare classes for this topic.

Programs and Activities

1. National President's Scholarship-Children of Warriors Fund - The National President's scholarships are awarded to children of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for The American Legion. One \$2,500 scholarship, one \$2,000 scholarship, and one \$1,500 in scholarship money will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$30,000 to further their higher education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during his/her high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships.
2. The Non-Traditional Student - There will be five scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, awarded in each administrative year. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each American Legion Auxiliary division. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which application is made.
3. Spirit of Youth - One Junior member in each division will receive a scholarship valued at \$1,000 per year for four years (total \$4,000). The applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, currently hold a membership card, and continue to maintain her membership throughout the four-year scholarship period.

Education

Education Awards

Unit Awards

1. Most Outstanding American Education Week Program

A plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding American Education Week program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. **Entries are due to the Department Chairman** no later than May 1, 2011, for judging. The best entry will be forwarded to the National Education Committee for consideration. Use Award Form #1.

2. Most Outstanding Literacy Program

A plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding literacy program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. **Entries are due to Department Committee Member Diane Lawrence** no later than May 1, 2011, for judging. The best entry will be forwarded to the National Education Committee for consideration. Use Award Form #2.

3. Most Outstanding Scholarship Program

A plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding scholarship program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. **Entries are due to Department Committee Member Johnnie Harrison** no later than May 1, 2011, for judging. The best entry will be forwarded to the National Education Committee for consideration. Use Award Form #3.

4. Most Outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Program

A plaque will be presented to a Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding Veteran in the Classroom Program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. **Entries are due to the Department Chairman** no later than May 1, 2011, for judging. The best entry will be forwarded to the National Education Committee for consideration. Use Award Form #4.

5. Give 10 to Education

A citation will be awarded to every Unit participating in the Give 10 to Education program at State Convention 2011. Complete the attached Give 10 Report Form and **send to the Department Chairman** no later than May 1, 2011.

6. On the Department level, a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place award will be presented to units for outstanding Education efforts, based on year-end reporting. Certificates of participation/appreciation will be given to each reporting Unit.

Education

Department Awards

1. Most Outstanding Overall Department Education Program

A citation will be presented to the Department Education Chairman in each division reporting the best overall Department Education Program. Award entry shall be in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department name, and name and address of the Department Chairman. Entries should be forwarded by June 1 of each year. Entries should be sent to the divisional Education Chairman.

Mid-Year and Year-End Reports

A Mid-Year Progress Report of Education activities is due to the Department Chairman by December 31, 2010. Let us know what you've been doing for Education in your area. A Year-End Annual Report (attached) is due by May 1, 2011, to the Department Chairman. **Be sure to include the Unit name, number, Chairman's name and her address in both reports.** Feel free to include photos of activities and newspaper clippings, etc.

Resources

1. Scholarship applications are available on the Auxiliary's website at www.legion-aux.org.
2. Contact American Legion Flag & Emblem Sales online for educational products at www.emblem.legion.org/
3. Educational resources are available at no cost by contacting the Americanism and Children & Youth Commission of The American Legion or visit their website at www.legion.org.
4. The American Legion's comprehensive national scholarship resource, *Need A Lift?* at <http://www.legion.org/mygibill/needalift>

See program page on www.legion-aux.org for additional resources.