

AMERICANISM PROGRAM

Program Goals:

- Flag Education
- Promote #AuxiliaryPatriotism
- POW/MIA Recognition
- Star Family Recognition

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME

"Stand Up, Speak Out"

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME

"Banding Together For Veterans"

"Americanism", "The Land of the Free", hearing our National Anthem and knowing why those words were sung, and why we stand and respect our Great Nation. The Flag and our National Anthem are symbols Freedom. Freedom is a word we should never take for granted but realize that our founders' concept of what this new nation could and should be was as close to pure as may earthly be expected of any society.

1. "More Than Letters" POW, MIA, AND KIA'S - Educate the Community that they are more than letters "Prisoner of War", "Missing in Action", and "Killed in Action".
 - Acknowledge them daily.
 - Have a dedication ceremony.
 - Meet their families.
 - Host a special program.
2. Flag Education: Educate the Community on "Flag Etiquette".
 - Flag Retirement Ceremony
 - Ask to go into the schools and educate the children on the folds of the Flag the colors of the Flag.
 - Recognition of Outstanding Community Flag
3. Promote Patriotism: Celebrate the Patriotic Holidays with the community.
 - Host a BBQ
 - Celebrate the Birthdays of each branch of the Military!
4. Promote #AuxiliaryPatriotism
5. "Star Family Recognition"
 - Honor families of those who lost loved ones.
 - Recognize those families who have loved one overseas.
 - Have an event and invite Blue, Silver and Gold Star families.

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DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES:

1. **Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters”.**

- Special Award to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Membership Classes that host an activity and/or event that educates the community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters”. Criteria and entry form (required) at www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources and send to their Department Chairman by March 31st, 2024.
- Special Award to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Membership Classes that educates the community on “Flag Education”. Reports should be sent directly to the Department Chairman for judging by March 31st, 2024. Awards will be presented at June Convention 2024.
- Special Award to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) membership classes that hosts the most outstanding Patriotic Community event with the highest participation of students demonstrating Flag Education.

NATIONAL AWARDS:

AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. **Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters”.**

- Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters”. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2024. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are “more than letters”. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

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