

ALA Girls State History

ALA GIRLS STATE began in 1937 and for almost 80 years now, the American Legion Auxiliary has succeeded in giving young women the finest citizenship training program possible. The program has grown from a few hundred participants nationwide to nearly 20,000 ALA GIRLS STATE citizens annually, representing 50 states.

Following each ALA GIRLS STATE session, the two top outstanding citizens are chosen to represent their state at ALA GIRLS NATION in Washington D.C. ALA GIRLS NATION has been recognized by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and has been placed on the National Advisory List of Contests and Activities.



Program Objectives

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary have structured ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE program in order to meet the following objectives:

- To develop leadership skills and pride in being American citizens
- To educate citizens about our system of government
- To stimulate a desire to maintain & appreciate our governmental process

PAST PARTICIPANTS OF ALA GIRLS STATE/ALA GIRLS NATION

Include:

Anne M. Edwards
Associate Attorney General of NH

Jane Pauley

Broadcast Journalist

Katie Couric

Talk Show Host

Sharla "Kris" Cook

Brigadier General of the Air Force

Lynne Cheney

Author, Education Reform Advocate, wife of
former United States Vice President

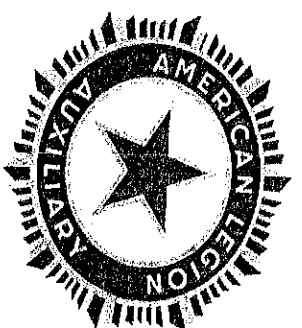
For more information on

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE

Contact: 603-856-8942

American Legion Auxiliary Department of NH
121 S. Fruit St. Suite 103 Concord NH 03301

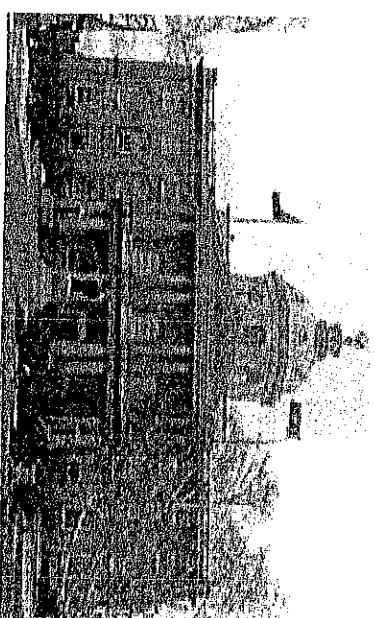
www.alagranitegirlsstate.wordpress.com
granitegirlsstate@hotmail.com



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New Hampshire

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE

A Youth Citizenship Program
For Young Women



Whatever path the future holds, taking full advantage of the chance to develop leadership skills, confidence and poise will give young women a lasting foundation for success in their personal and professional lives.

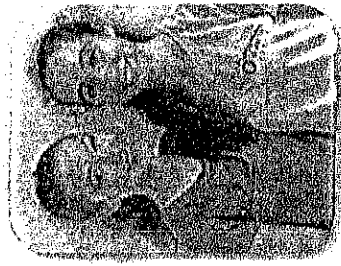
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Founded in 1919, members of the American Legion Auxiliary support and serve the Nation's veterans and their families. Auxiliary programs encompass many humanitarian and social concerns including the welfare and care of veterans, children and youth, women's issues and service to the community. Year after year, members donate more than \$18 million and 6 million volunteer hours to communities nationwide.

Selection Process

- Completed Junior year of high school
- Interested in government and current events
- Have strong leadership abilities
- Have an above average scholastic standing
- US citizenship
- Each applicant must be willing to pledge allegiance to the flag of our country and abide by all rules of ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE.

2019 Girls Nation Senators
2020 ALA Granite Girls State JR Advisors



Gabrielle Destrochers and Michelle Freeman

Selection Criteria

Citizens of the ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE program are selected by their local American Legion Auxiliary Unit, working with local high school educators who assist in evaluating potential leadership qualities of the young ladies.

The number of ALA GIRLS STATE citizens varies greatly in each state and is determined by each state's American Legion Auxiliary available resources. The program is funded by the American Legion Auxiliary, with some additional support coming from local businesses, civic and non-profit organizations. Little expense is required of the young woman and her family.

What is ALA Granite Girls State?

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE is a practical application of Americanism and good citizenship accomplished through non-political lessons. These lessons inculcate in our citizens a love of America, knowledge of their government, an a sense of individual obligation to their community, state and nation.

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE follows New Hampshire's governmental procedure as closely as possible. The girls learn about our two-party system. They learn the duties, responsibilities and powers of various offices. They hold party caucuses and have primary and general elections. ALA GIRLS STATE citizens elect town, city, county and state officials and conduct city, town and county meetings. As senators and representatives, they introduce, debate, and vote on bills.

Girls from communities throughout the state attend ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE. They learn the important lessons of democracy, patriotism, love, loyalty, learning, truth, and service. They make everlasting friendships. They have the opportunity to learn that government is just what they make it. They learn the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

Scholarships

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE citizens have the opportunity to receive financial assistance through the **Samsung American Legion Scholarship**.

The scholarship will be awarded to qualified students who are direct descendants of United States wartime veterans. Selection criteria includes academic record, community involvement, school activities and financial need.

Various other college scholarships are offered through the Department of New Hampshire American Legion families.

Check with your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit to see what scholarships are available in your area.

Additional Activities

To encourage creativity and fellowship, many activities are offered as part of the ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE program.

Citizens will have the opportunity to participate in:

- Public speaking/debating
- ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE Talent show
- Patriotic Ceremonies
- Creating the Granite Press (yearbook)

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE has provided valuable learning experiences for thousands of New Hampshire women. It has instilled in these women, a deeper understanding of their government.

"I can't imagine graduating high school without the opportunity to attend GIRLS STATE. It was such an amazing experience, it created memories that I will have for the rest of my life."

-Samantha Welch GGS 2013
Pinkerton Academy

"Going to Girls State was an opportunity of a lifetime. I met amazing girls from throughout the state, got a deeper knowledge of our government and made memories that I will cherish forever."

-Rebecca Lynn Cosgrove GGS 2013

"I never knew high school girls could ever be so great and become your best friends in a week! Not to mention how much you learn about government and how great our country is! All in all, the best week of the entire summer!"

-Sarah Payson GGS 2012



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of New Hampshire
June 19 – June 24, 2020

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS ENTIRE APPLICATION AND RETURN TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE BACK PAGE BY MAY 15, 2020, ALONG WITH A SMALL "HEAD & SHOULDERS" PICTURE (WALLET SIZE, FOR YEARBOOK). EACH APPLICANT SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE A \$50.00, NON-REFUNDABLE PROCESSING FEE.

(Print or type - using name desired on records)

Name _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Home Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Age _____ Home Telephone Number _____

Email address: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Name of school attending and Current GPA (Attach unofficial copy of transcript)

Signature of school Principal or Guidance Director

SCHOOL RECORD

Are you informed on the general ideas of the AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GIRLS STATE? _____

Have you studied civics/American Government? _____

What special talents do you have? ie. musical, art, dance, etc.

What extra curricular activities do you participate in?

Do you have disabilities? _____ If so, state nature of disability _____

Do you recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag when the opportunity arises? _____

The undersigned parents (surviving parent or guardian) of _____
(Applicant's name)
a student at _____
(High School)

In consideration of instruction and training to be given to _____
(Applicant's name)

as a citizen of ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of NH, Inc. to be held at **St. Anselm College** during the dates of June 19 - June 24, 2020, do hereby give consent for her to participate in any activities which are scheduled as part of the ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE program. We do hereby release and discharge the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New Hampshire, its officers, agents, instructors and employees from any and all claims, demands, damages, suits, actions or suffers by _____ while in attendance at

(Applicant's Name)
ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE, no matter how caused or occasioned.

Does your daughter have any allergies or any physical or emotional conditions that ALA GIRLS STATE should be aware of?

Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please explain _____

Signed this _____ day of _____, 201_.

(Parents or Guardian's Signature)

PHOTO/Likeness Release Form

I hereby authorize the staff of the AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GRANITE GIRLS STATE to photograph or video me/my daughter and consent to the use of any of her likenesses in any and all - AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GRANITE GIRLS STATE publications, educational material, and advertising, news media, video, and Web materials.

I understand and agree that such materials, including all negatives shall become the property of the AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GRANITE GIRLS STATE. I further understand and agree that these materials may be kept on file for potential future uses and further agree to release the AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GRANITE GIRLS STATE from any and all liability arising from or in connection with the taking, use, publication, or dissemination of such materials.

Print Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

As a citizen of ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE, you should keep the following pledge in mind so that there will be an understanding of both the principles of ALA GIRLS STATE and your obligations as a citizen. As a citizen of ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New Hampshire, I voluntarily make the following pledge:

I will obey the rules of GIRLS STATE.

I will be present for every portion of the GIRLS STATE session.

I will take a serious and conscientious interest in discharging my duties as a citizen of GIRLS STATE.

I understand that this is an Americanism program and that it is a study of town, city, county, and state government.

I will salute the American Flag.

If elected to office, I will serve that office to the best of my ability.

I will abide by the judgment of those responsible for this Americanism program.

I will make a formal report (written or oral) of my impression of GIRLS STATE upon my return home.

I will live in residence as a citizen of GIRLS STATE and I will remain for its entirety.

In so far as possible, I will take an active part in the affairs of the party, the town, the city, and county to which I am assigned.

I will be fair and honest in all of my dealings with my fellow citizens.

I am not a member of and do not subscribe to the principles of any group opposed to our form of government.

Applicant's signature

Local American Legion Auxiliary Contact Information

Unit Number: _____

Contact Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Town/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Paperclip
Photo
Here

(Make sure your name
is on the back of the picture)

If you don't have an American Legion
Post in your area you can return
application to:

ALA Dept. of NH
121 So. Fruit St. Suite 103
Concord, NH 03301-2412

FOR OFFICE USE

Sponsored by _____
(Unit Name and No.) (Unit President)

Contributing Sponsor _____

Assigned to _____
(Party) (District) (Town, City, County) (Room)