

ALA GIRLS NATION TIMES

Daily Highlights

- Senators arrive
- American Legion Auxiliary Program Fair
- Opening Convocation
- Service Project for Socks of love

Fun Program Facts

- This is the 70th session of ALA Girls Nation
- The Federalist have the Majority

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Highlights from Check In!

The senators arrived from near and far via trains, planes, buses, and cars! They were eager to meet new friends, register, and learn which community they were joining while at ALA Girls Nation!





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Highlights from Convocation!

The week began with opening convocation. The senators were sworn in, learned about the American Legion Auxiliary, the history of the poppy, and that their attendance at ALA Girls Nation truly makes them 1 in 20 million! Senators and staff worked together to make a poppy wreath that will be placed at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery tomorrow.



Four senators were randomly selected to represent the 2016 Girls Nation senators during a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier tomorrow.



L to R: Lee Adi, SC
Julia Nail, AR

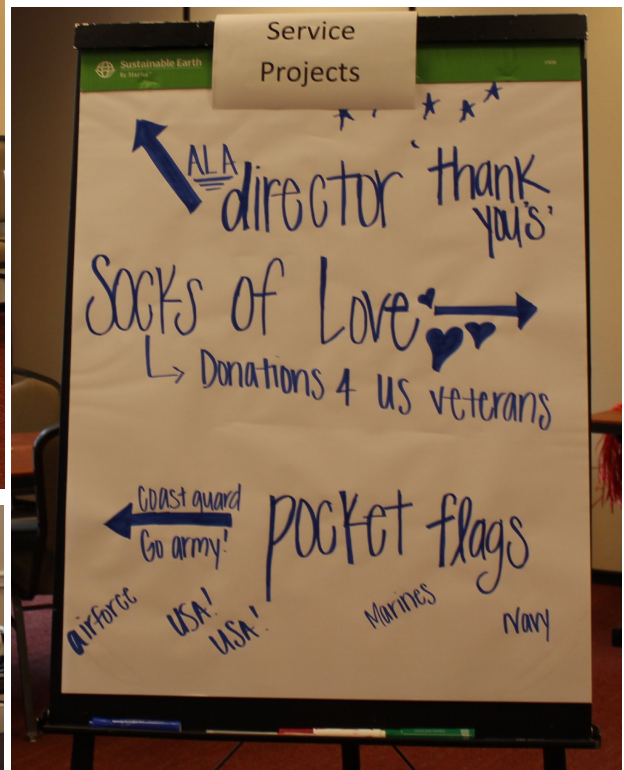
Daniela Suarez, WA
Genevieve Romero, NM



The American Legion Auxiliary Programs Fair

As senators arrived they were welcomed with information about the American Legion Auxiliary and several of the ALA programs! This year some of the programs highlighted included junior activities, scholarship opportunities, VA & R, and membership.

The programs fair gave senators the opportunity to learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary in an informal setting. Auxiliary members shared information about the program at their table and provided brochures and information throughout the afternoon. Senators were eager to learn more about the specific ALA programs featured and were able to ask questions about the services the American Legion Auxiliary provides for veterans and military and their families. Senators also learned about the opportunities the ALA provides to its members and the benefits of becoming an ALA member.

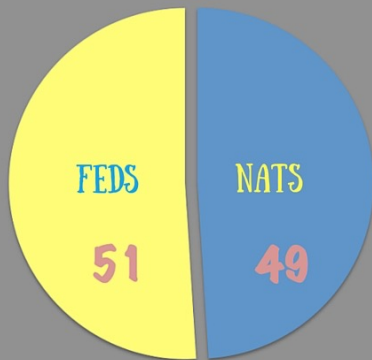


2016 ALA Girls Nation Service Project: Socks of Love

With veterans accounting for approximately 11 percent of America's total adult homeless, the American Legion Auxiliary treats veteran homelessness as a top priority among our mission to support and advocate for veterans, military, and their families. There are many ways our ALA Girls Nation senators can make a difference in the lives of a homeless veteran and this year's ALA Girls Nation service project socks of Love is one of them! Senators were asked to bring one pair of new tube socks and were provided with travel size items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tissues, detergent, and deodorant to fill their sock with before attaching a note. Additional socks were available if senators forgot to pack a pair. The American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program is teaming up with the United States Veterans Initiative in Washington, D.C. to ensure that these socks are distributed to homeless veterans in the D.C. area.



2016 ALA Girls Nation PARTY BREAKDOWN



And the Majority Party is....
The Federalists!



Chairman's Corner
By Pam Ray
ALA Girls Nation Chairman

ALA Girls Nation has officially begun! 100 senators from all 50 states have arrived and already made new friends. Our opening convocation introduced the girls to the ALA. The senators from the Department of Illinois presented our Nation's colors. During the ceremony, Poppy Chairman Claudia Goodin presented the poppy story with reverence. The senators from the Department of Missouri shared the poem "Flanders Fields," and each senator received a poppy that they will wear proudly at Arlington National Cemetery tomorrow as we pay homage to our veterans. To end our opening convocation the senators from South Dakota retired the colors.

I look forward to communicating with you daily, watch out for the exciting updates from ALA Girls Nation 2016!