



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
GIRLS STATE PROGRAM
2022-2023



Bulletin #3

www.cagirlsstate.org

January 2023

2023 Reservations – Still accepting reservations

Hello [Bonnie Leake](#) Train!

Celebration of Life for Director Tammy Sollazzo: Saturday, February 11 at 2:00pm at American Legion Lakewood Post 496 at 5938 E. Parkcrest Street in Long Beach.

I have been privileged to work closely with Tammy for the last four years with ALA CAGS. She was the Department Girls State Chair when I accepted my first ALA appointment as a Girls State Committee Member. She generously welcomed me into her home where the Committee Meeting held that year to help me decrease my travel expenses. Ever since I was appointed Department Girls State Chair, she has been by my side mentoring me, patiently reminding me of various deadlines and responsibilities. She served as Director during three unique years of unchartered territory - quickly pivoting to a virtual 2020 Town Hall in two months, carrying out a more extensive virtual 2021 session, and finally successfully returning to an in-person 2022 session. Tammy's support of ALA CAGS was unwavering. She was humble, yet quick to praise and acknowledge others. Those in attendance at the 2022 session fondly remember her beautiful and touching tribute to her dear husband, Bill Miller, and his service to our country at the final flag ceremony. Thank you for continuing to keep Tammy's loved ones, especially Bill, in your thoughts and prayers.

Interim Director for the 2023 Session: Thank you to Valerie Hardy who has accepted this appointment by President Gloria Williams. Val has volunteered in every position related to ALA CAGS and was honored in the 2022 session with the Lifetime Achievement Award. She has also served as the Western Division Girls State/Girls Nation Chair and volunteered at 2022 ALA Girls Nation.

2023 Session: We have 471 reservations! Thank you for all your work! We hope to have 500 delegates. Reservations remain open.

Unit Girls State Chairperson To Do List:

- Complete the [2023 ALA CAGS Candidate Selection Instruction form](#) and instruct Unit President to also complete. **This is a Department Code Requirement.** At the beginning of the form, there is a link to a Google Slides presentation which provides instruction about the types of questions that should be included in interviews and essays, and those which are discriminatory or not appropriate. The form includes questions to test your understanding of the instruction.
- Download the [Unit Information Packet](#).
 - Page 1 includes instructions and a description of each section. FAQs are included at the end.
 - If you first fill in the fields on the Delegate/Alternate Information Sheet on page 16 of the PDF file (with footer Page 15 of 15), the similar fields throughout the PDF will automatically fill in with that information.
 - Individual pages of the Unit Information Packet are available in [this folder](#).

- Review the [Frequently Asked Questions Document](#) with schools.
 - Remind schools that there are two separate programs in 2023:
 - The American Legion Auxiliary’s (ALA) 80th session of ALA California Girls State
 - The American Legion’s first coed California Boys State session
 - Those eligible for both programs must choose only one program for which to apply.
- Schedule interviews and/or essay/application deadlines for candidates.
 - Online applications will be available February 1 and due March 15.
 - Be sure candidates will commit to being at Sacramento State University the entire session from June 26th between 7-9am through July 1, 2023 until 4:30pm.
 - Buses will travel the evening of Sunday, June 25th and return early morning Sunday, July 2nd.
- Unit Enrollment (\$350) and Registration fees (\$75) remain unchanged from 2022.
 - There will only be one transmittal form for all fees, including transportation, that will be sent to the Department Processing Center in Pasadena with a deadline of April 15.
 - That transmittal form will be available at the beginning of April 1 after we determine bus routes based on delegates’ online application responses to transportation questions.
- If your Unit needs assistance to sponsor schools, apply for an [ALA Girls State Alumnae Foundation Grant](#).
 - Deadline is February 1, 2023.
- Verify the accuracy of the [2023 Reservation List](#). Make sure your email address is correct and that all your schools are listed. Password is “AllAboard23” (no quotation marks, case-sensitive).
- Remember to track ALA CAGS volunteer hours from Unit members from May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023. This number will be asked on the end of the year report.
- Apply and/or encourage others to apply to be a [2023 ALA CAGS City Liaison](#).

Next Zoom: Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82821636174?pwd=bThxRHZ1K2J6SHQxa3REWkFHdEhzUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 2163 6174 Passcode: alacags23

Resources for Unit and District Girls State Chairpersons:

- [Shared Google Drive folder](#)
- [Recording of December 14 Zoom](#)

Thank you all for your patience, support, work, and encouragement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Allyn Kau, alacagschair@gmail.com, 626-622-2354