



Illinois State Organization  
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Marria Elliott Blinn, State Regent



State Information Packet 2025-2026  
American Heritage Committee

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*Please leave me a voice message if I don't answer your call. I truly look forward to helping you with your work. – Lucinda*

**Contest Theme 2025-2026** *(This will change for 2026-2027.)*

**The Road to Independence – Acts of Rebellion and Treason.** The American colonists participated in many acts of defiance against the British Crown. Some of these acts were illegal and could have landed them in jail or worse, gotten them hanged. But independence meant so much that they were willing to risk it all. Which action (or actions) taken by our Patriot ancestors stand out to you on the path of becoming a free and independent nation?



Seven main arts & crafts categories with more than 50 subcategories!

All submissions are made electronically and include a narrative.

Chapters having entries receive CMR credit.

**Art and Sculpture • Crafts • Fiber Arts • Jewelry • Literature & Drama • Music • Photography**

Suggestions for incorporating the theme are on the committee main page, link to individual category instructions.

<https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/american-heritage/committee-overview>

**Contest Theme 2025-2026 for Fiber Arts Historic Clothing** *(This will change for 2026-2027.)*

**1824-1825 Lafayette Farewell Tour. You are attending a ball in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette.** What will you or your escort be wearing?

Entries submitted by EMAIL only – no postal entries. Your personal, creative interpretation of the theme is an important part of the contest: be sure to express it in your narrative. Past winners (2023-25) presentations and examples: <https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/american-heritage/contest-winners>

**DEADLINES**

- Entries for categories **other than Fiber Arts are accepted between January 2 and February 15** (send to the designated national vice chair for the category, include a copy to the state chair).
- Entries for **Fiber Arts are accepted between January 2 and January 15** (send to state chair). Please refer to pages 16-24 in the National Information Packet for detailed contest information.

**Women in the Arts Recognition Award (WIARA.)** This is a non-competitive, non-performance art award to honor a woman (DAR member or non-member) who has made significant achievements in her artistic field. Chapters and states may honor women with this award throughout the year. Instructions are on the committee website.

