

American Heritage Committee 2025-2026

Greetings Ladies!

The American Heritage Contest details have been released, and it looks to be an extra special one as we enter the USA's 250th birthday! The Theme this year is ***The Road to Independence – Acts of Rebellion and Treason.***

'The American Heritage Committee was established to preserve our rich and diverse American heritage through artistic endeavors. There are numerous ways our talented and creative Daughters can participate in the committee as we Illuminate.Our.Legacy;

Celebrate your art through contests in art & sculpture, crafts, fiber arts, literature & drama, music, jewelry, and photography. The Evelyn Cole Peters Award may be awarded at the judges discretion for excellence in any of the contest categories when an exceptional entry is presented. ' West Virginia Daughters had 2024 Evelyn Cole Peters Award winners in the Literature and Drama Category with daughters of the Bee Line Chapter (Group Category) and Chris Painter of the Blennerhassett Chapter (Poetry 16-30 Lines) all took home first place recognition! Linda S Hall of the Anne Bailey Chapter received a 2nd place Evelyn Cole Peters Award in Fiber Arts with a beautiful Cross-Stitch entry.

Please find below some of the details about the contest. If you would like to read all the details, please visit <https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/american-heritage/committee-overview> You may have to log-in as a member to access the page. The required for is AHE-100 that can be accessed through the website. I will gladly forward a copy if you ask.

The **Fiber Arts** category is unique in that the entries do not go directly to the National Chair. Those should be sent to me, as your State Chair. ***The deadline for Fiber Arts submissions to the State Chair is 31JANUARY2026.*** Please note that entries that go to the National Chairs will only be accepted between January 2 and February 15.

All other categories should be submitted to the National Chair as identified on the American Heritage WebSite. Please a copy to me (hilltopannie58@outlook.com) to help me keep track of the submissions from WV. **Please note** that entries that go to the National Chairs will only be accepted between January 2 and February 15.

- Your entire entry package must contain the entry form (page one of the form), narrative (page two of the form) and six photos. If you are entering a Group entry your package will contain one additional page with printed names, signatures, national numbers of all members of the group and how each of them contributed to the

project. Group entries are not judged separately from individual entries. There is no "group" category. Please note the narrative is extremely important as it has been used to break a tie.

- Never send your artwork. You will be judged exclusively by the photos sent of your entry. Photos do NOT need to be sent for Literature & Drama, or Music. For Photography, only send the photo to be judged. Photos must be of good quality, but not too large to send by email. Photos must be clearly labeled. Please do not use zip files to send photos. One photo MUST show the entire entry, with four showing details and one photo of item construction. Please do not use children or models in the photos. If you are sending photos of Historic Dress, please use a mannequin, if using a model only from the neck down.
- Music must have four items: the entry form, the narrative, a manuscript or computer-generated copy of the composition, and an mp3 or similar recording capable of being played on the computer. As a courtesy, please send a duplicate of your signed, completed contest entry form (page one and two of the entry form) to your state chair.
- Every entry must incorporate the theme for the contest. All entries must be the original work of the person(s) entering the contest while a DAR member.
- Patterns and kits may NOT be used. Please see Fiber Arts for their specific information.
- Only one entry per member may be submitted in our American Heritage contest as an individual entry. (For example, you cannot enter something in Literature & Drama and also in Fiber Arts. Choose one contest only.) You may enter one item as an individual AND on item as part of a group. An entry is one item or collection of not more than three. Entries will not be returned.
- A past national winning piece (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place) may not be reentered into future contests.
- Posthumous entries are not eligible, even if the deceased member was part of a group.

Best of luck to all you very talented ladies! Let keep the West Virginia talent shining through!

In DAR friendship,

Anna Chandler

WV State Chair, American Heritage