



National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Ann Turner Dillon, President General

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE — Jamie Durham Burchfield, *National Chair*

2019 Helen Pouch Memorial Fund Classroom Grant Information

History

The National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution founded in 1890, is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. The National Junior Membership committee was created in 1937 with the purpose to train younger DAR members and help them to gain leadership experience to carry out the work of the National Society. A Junior member is a "full-fledged" DAR member ages 18-35. One of the goals of the Junior Membership committee is to support the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund which is the fundraising project of the committee. The Helen Pouch Memorial Fund was created in 1938 with the primary goal to support education. Since its inception, the fund has awarded annual scholarships and supported educational projects at the DAR schools. In an effort to expand the impact of the **Helen Pouch Memorial Fund, the committee has established the classroom grant project with the goal of awarding a \$500 classroom grant to one classroom in each state**, totaling \$25,000 in grant awards each year.

Criteria for Grant Proposals

Supporting education has been a primary objective of the National Society since its founding. This focus comes from a desire to carry out the injunction of Washington, in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for performing the duties of American citizens.

Applicants for the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund Classroom Grants **must be classroom teachers for grades kindergarten through 12th grade and sponsored by a local DAR chapter**. Proposed **projects must directly benefit students in the classroom**. Funds may be used for supplies and educational programs but the applicant must detail how these items will help to further the educational goals of the DAR. **Completed applications are forwarded to the Junior Membership state chair by the established deadline**. Award recipients will be notified in June 2019. Grants will be distributed no later than August 2019 after verification of employment with each school district. In order to ensure the greatest impact possible, grant recipients are ineligible to re-apply for another grant.