



Department of New York American Legion
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program
“A Constitutional Speech Contest”



2018 – 2019

March 2, 2019

(Snow date March 9, 2019)

Sand Creek Middle School

Albany, New York 12205

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible participants in The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – “A Constitutional Speech Contest” shall be **citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States.**

All contestants must be bonafide students herein described as any student under the age of twenty (20) years on the date of the National Finals Contest and who is presently enrolled in high school or junior high school (public, military, private, or parochial, or who are home schooled) in which the curriculum is considered to be of high school grade level commencing with grade nine (**9**) and terminating with grade twelve (**12**). Students must be enrolled in high school or junior high school during the time of participation at any level of the contest. High school students that graduate early during the school year are eligible to compete if they are not enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other institution of higher learning at the time of the Department finals contest. Contestants must either be legally domiciled within or attend an educational institution within the department (state) where they enter competition. Contestants can enter competition in only one department (state).

CERTIFICATION

The Contestant Registration Form # 1 must be filled out and signed by the contestant, the principal of the high school, or the parent or guardian of the home schooler. Both the Prepared Oration and Contestant Registration Form # 1 must be submitted to the County Chairman no later than November 16, 2018.

DATES OF CONTESTS

County contests will be held between November 24, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Please contact your County Chairman to find out the date of your contest. District contests are held between January 5, 2019 and January 20, 2019, and Zone contests are held between February 2, 2019 and February 10, 2019. **The dates of each level of competition are determined by the respective chairmen.** They will contact you once they have received your Contest Registration Form # 1 and your Prepared Oration. The Department (State) Finals will be held on March 2, 2019, at 10:00 AM, at the Sand Creek Middle School, Albany, New York. All Contestants and Chaperones must be in Albany by 4:00 PM March 1, 2019. In case of cancellation due to inclement weather, it will be held on March 9, 2019 at the same place and time, and would have to be in Albany by 4:00 PM on March 8, 2019.

The National Finals are April 6 and 7, 2019 in Indianapolis, Indiana. All contestants must be at the contest site on April 5, 2019. The National Organization will bear the expenses for the contestant and their chaperone. See www.legion.org for additional information.

CONTEST FORMAT

New York is broken down into four levels of competition, County, District, Zone, and Department (State) Final. Each school may enter three (3) contestants in the County Contest. Preliminary County Contest maybe run if too many contestants enter prior to the County Final. Each District will structure their contest to conform to the number of contestants that have applied to compete in the County contests, and how many will advance into the District contest or contests. **No County or District will have more than six contestants in any preliminary or final contests without the consent of the Department of New York Chairman.** The District Chairman will report the first and second place winners to the Zone Chairman. Two contestants from the District contest will continue on to the Zone contest, and then one contestant will go on to the Department (State) Final. There will be five contestants in the Department (State) Final of which one will go on to the National Finals.

HOW TO ENTER

Click on the Application link on the Oratorical home page and complete the Contestant Registration Form # 1. Make sure everything on the registration form is filled in. Then send the registration form, along with a copy of your oration to your local American Legion County Organization. If you do not know who to contact in your county, find you're County below and call the District or Zone Chairman that County is associated with:

Zone 1: Michael Brophy – (845) 238-8161 (michaalebrophy@aol.com)

District 1 – Earl J. Menard, Jr.
917-325-0300
Email: ejm124@aol.com

Bronx County
New York County

District 9 – Maureen Morgan
845-729-5471
Email: rocklandgirl286@gmail.com

Dutchess County
Orange County
Putnam County
Rockland County
Westchester County

Zone 2: Philip Barczak – (631) 724-8577 (barczakp@aol.com)

District 2- Albert W. Klingele
718-948-0571
Email: aklingele@si.rr.com

Kings County
Richmond County

District 10 – John T. Digilio, Jr.
(H) 631-968-9216 (C) 516-445-9090
Email: bgjohndigilio@aol.com

Queens County
Nassau County
Suffolk County

Zone 3: Margaret Folk – (518) 747-6855 (shebearmk@roadrunner.com)

District 3 – Gary Koopman
518-622-8696
Email: qandagk@hotmail.com

Albany County
Columbia County
Greene County
Rensselaer County
Schoharie County
Sullivan County
Ulster County

District 4 – Steve Bowman
518-846-8263
Email: steve.bowman@clintoncountygov.com

Clinton County
Essex County
Franklin County
Fulton County
Hamilton County
Montgomery County
St. Lawrence County
Saratoga County
Schenectady County
Warren County
Washington County

Zone 4: Philip A. Seybert – (315) 777-7177 (philipseibert@yahoo.com)

District 5 – Lynn May
(H) 315-642-3408 (C) 315-486-9958
Email: lynnmay.csea@yahoo.com

Herkimer County Oneida County
Jefferson County Onondaga County
Lewis County Oswego County

District 6 – Robert C. Gardner
(H) 607-634-4099 (C) 607-760-9159
Email: americanlegion974@frontier.com

Broome County Madison County
Chemung County Otsego County
Chenango County Schuyler County
Cortland County Tioga County
Delaware County Tompkins County

Zone 5: Norma Weissend – (585) 727-6190 (normaweis@roadrunner.com)

District 7 – Holly Trueman
315-521-4783
Email: holly.trueman@gmail.com

Cayuga County Seneca County
Livingston County Steuben County
Monroe County Wayne County
Ontario County Yates County

District 8 – Walter Ackley
716-664-1692
Email: walterackley@gmail.com

Allegany County Genesee County
Canada County Niagara County
Cattaraugus County Orleans County
Chautauqua County Wyoming County
Erie County

You may also contact one of the following for assistance:

Kristine Miller, Program Coordinator	1-800-253-4466	kmiller@nylegion.org
Anthony L. Paternostro, Department Chairman	1-516-308-7019	paternosala@aol.com

READING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK OFFICIAL RULES
BROCHURE IS MANDATORY