



Department of Illinois



The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program - A Constitutional Speech Contest

\$15,225 in Scholarships

For

Department Finalists, Division and District Programs

FOREWORD

The purpose of this contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of The United States on the part of high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

The scholarships awarded by the Department of Illinois, The American Legion, to the Department winners may be used to attend any College, University, Junior College, or Vocational Educational Institution, within four (4) years after graduation from high school unless interrupted by service in the Armed Forces. Funds for the scholarships awarded by the Department of Illinois are provided by membership dues to the Department.

PROGRAM FACTS

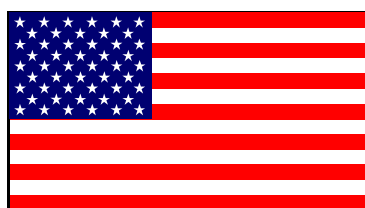
The American Legion National High School Oratorical Program, following successful Department Competition, was first conducted as a National Contest in 1938 with eleven Departments competing. In recent years approximately 30,000 contestants have participated each year, representing fifty two Departments of The American Legion.

Besides providing excellent experience for thousands of students participating in the program,

the program affords a vast audience of The American public the opportunity to better understand the meaning of the United States Constitution.

The Department of Illinois awards \$15,225 in scholarships each year to Department Finalists and Division contestants.

The National Organization provides \$128,000 in scholarships to the National Finalists, Semi-Finalists and winners to the National Finals.



A Department of Illinois
and
National Americanism Activity
of
THE AMERICAN LEGION

APPROVED BY
The National Association
of
Secondary School Principals



RULES FOR CONTESTANTS

SUBJECT TO BE USED FOR PREPARED ORATION

The subject to be used for the prepared oration in the Oratorical Contest must be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The same subject and oration used in the Department Contest must be used in the National Contest.

THE PREPARED ORATION MUST BE THE ORIGINAL EFFORT OF EACH CONTESTANT AND MUST NOT TAKE UP LESS THAN EIGHT NOR MORE THAN TEN MINUTES MINUTES FOR DELIVERY. THE PENALTY FOR PLAGIARISM WILL BE DISQUALIFICATION. IT MUST BEAR A TITLE WHICH IS TO BE ANNOUNCED BY THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN WHEN HE INTRODUCES THE CONTESTANT; I.E. CONTESTANT NO. 1, THE TITLE OF THE ORATION IS, "ETC."

THE ASSIGNED-TOPICS

The Assigned Topics must not consume less than three minutes nor more than five minutes for delivery. The purpose of the Assigned Topic is to test the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of his research, and the ability to discuss extemporaneously the topic as related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution.

The full text for the Assigned Topic, will be made known to each contestant approximately five (5) minutes prior to the delivery by the contestant. The topic will be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States, selected from Articles and Sections as listed under Assigned Topics for this contest on the insert.

In the prepared orations, as well as in the Assigned Topics, quotations must be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than ten words in length, the author's name must be given in the manuscript and cited orally.

CERTIFICATION

Each Post, County, District and Division can certify one contestant into the subsequent contest at the next level of competition. More than one contestant can come from a school if they are sponsored by different local Posts.

ELIGIBILITY

All contestants must be Lawful Permanent Residents of the United States of America and bona fide students in secondary schools (Public, Parochial, Military, Private and Home Schools) under the age of 20 years on the date of the National Finals Program whose academic curriculum is of Public High School level, and enrolled in classes equivalent to the regular 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades on January 1 of the year when such National Programs are conducted.

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO REPEAT PARTICIPATION IN THE AMERICAN LEGION HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM COMPETITION ON ANY LEVEL.

AWARDS

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

DISTRICT:

1st minimum Award - \$125.00
2nd minimum Award - \$100.00
3rd minimum Award - \$75.00
4th minimum Award - Citation

DIVISION:

1st minimum Award - Dept. Finalist - Gold Medal
2nd minimum Award - \$150.00 - Silver Medal
3rd minimum Award - \$100.00 - Bronze Medal
4th minimum Award - \$75.00

DEPARTMENT

MEDAL

SCHOLARSHIP

1st minimum Award.....	Gold.....	\$1,600
2nd minimum Award.....	Silver.....	\$1,300
3rd minimum Award.....	Silver.....	\$1,200
4th minimum Award.....	Silver.....	\$1,000
5th minimum Award.....	Silver.....	\$1,000

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

1st Place.....	\$18,000.00
2nd Place.....	\$16,000.00
3rd Place.....	\$14,000.00

First Round Contestants will receive a **\$1,500.00 scholarship**, and each Second Round Contestant who does not proceed to the National Finals will receive a **\$1,500.00 scholarship**.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION and DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS FORMS PLEASE GO TO: WWW.ILLEGION.ORG

ALL Department cash awards are payable to the accredited school or college of choice.

71st Annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

By action of the National Americanism Commission,
the Assigned Topics to be used in 2008 contests are as follows.

ASSIGNED TOPICS FOR 2008

Art 1 Sec 3 clause 6

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Amendment 14 Section 1

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Art 1 Sec 6 clause 1

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

Art 2 Sec 4

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

ATTENTION: POST AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN

THIS PROGRAM CAN BE SUCCESSFUL ONLY IF YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, SPEECH TEACHER OR OTHER PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SPEECH CONTESTS IN THE SCHOOL HAVE RECEIVED THIS BROCHURE, AND ARE AWARE OF THIS PROGRAM. CHECK WITH THEM TODAY, BE SURE YOUR POST SPONSORS A CONTESTANT.

The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

About The 2007 Department Champion...



My name is Jared Canfield, I am the son of Dwight and Gretchen Canfield from Naperville, Illinois. I am a 17 year old homeschooled Junior. This is my 7th year of homeschooling. In fact, the focus required in the final weeks of the Oratorical Contest was facilitated because of my schooling situation. I've am involved in a speech and debate league for homeschoolers, (called National Christian Forensics and Communications Association), for the past 5 years, and that's given me the foundation and the enjoyment for oration and argumentation. I'm also a part of a local debate club called Chicago CHARGE. My involvement in the American Legion contest was due to a church veteran's encouragement. John Prescott, of the Naperville Legion Post #43, knew of my background in speech and debate and felt I would gain good experience from the American Legion Oratorical competition, (and he was right!). Mr. Don Hennessy facilitated my involvement and provided great advice and encouragement. It's a rarity in society today to be able to have friendships with people

who are one and two generations your senior, but through The American Legion I have experienced that. The veterans I've met are both mentors and special friends. I feel extremely blessed to have competed at the national level. Simply being there was an honor, and to get to the final round was a once in a lifetime experience. My hope is that more kids realize the importance and vitality of public speaking and the duty of understanding our Constitution. Sincerely, Jared Canfield

\$15,225.00 IN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DISTRICT, DIVISION CONTESTANTS AND NATIONAL FINALISTS

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

1938	Thomas McEllin, Aurora	1977	MARK R. THOMPSON, GLENN ELLYN*
1939	Fleetwood McCoy, Chicago	1978	Jon Kastelic, Granite City
1940	Kenneth Anderson, Chicago	1979	Sarah Tsiang, Wheaton
1941	Jane Croessmann, DuQuoin	1980	Douglas F. Curtis, Wheaton
1942	David Smothers, Wheaton	1981	Kenneth Rice, Des Plaines
1943	BURTON BERNARD, GRANITE CITY*	1982	WILLIAM KEPHART, JR., CHILLICOTHE
1944	Melvin Cornfield, Chicago	1983	Cathy Sarnecke, Wheaton
1945	David Gray, DeKalb	1984	Julie Theriot, Wheaton
1946	William North, Park Ridge	1985	Steven William Brandy, Danville
1947	James Werner, DuQuoin	1986	Kent Ramler, Downers Grove
1948	Philip Angeloff, Granite City	1987	Brent Damrow, Frankfort
1949	Donald Pulliam, Danville	1988	Stephen Osunsami, Peoria
1950	Ralph Billeter, Maywood	1989	Shawn Chen, Glen Ellyn
1951	Barbara Miller, E. St. Louis	1990	Jane Park, Chicago
1952	Gerald Goldman, Chicago	1991	Brian Baker, Glenview
1953	Herbert Lassiter, Chicago	1992	Brian Baker, Glenview
1954	Robert B. Rosenberg, Chicago	1993	Richard Janor, Harwood Heights
1955	David G. Sills, Peoria Heights	1994	Adam Smith, Northbrook
1956	Kenneth Schurter, Chicago	1995	Richard Janor, Harwood Heights
1957	David Cohler, Chicago	1996	Jamie Aussieker, Highland
1958	Paul V. Black, Lansing	1997	Michael Masters, Winnetka
1959	ROGER R. MAJAK, LANSING*	1998	Julia Barrett, Oak Park
1960	Douglas Grandgeorge, Somonauk	1999	Julia Barrett, Oak Park
1961	James Edward Bond, Peoria	2000	Robert Goedert, Oak Park
1962	Robert I.Gordon, Highland Park	2001	April Kusper, Oak Park
1963	William (Bill) Thieman, Peoria	2002	MEGAN WYKES, PLANO*
1964	Frederick McDowell, Aurora	2003	Lucas Mette, Teutopolis
1965	Thomas J. Santefort, South Holland	2004	JACQUELINE KEIDEL, BERWYN*
1966	Michael Duncheon, Danville	2005	JOSHUA WILSON, GRIDLEY*
1967	David Lenny, Collinsville	2006	Casey Verkamp, Lisle
1968	David Lenny, Collinsville	2007	JARED CANFIELD, NAPERVILLE*
1969	Kathy Best, Peoria		
1970	Richard Prigge, Western Springs		
1971	Joel Richard Levin, Morton Grove		
1972	Roger Jones, Chicago		
1973	JOHN WESLEY FROST, PEORIA*		
1974	Joseph Arthur Bates, Winnetka		
1975	GRETCHEN WINTER, CHICAGO*		
1976	Dale J. Trela, Evergreen Park		

* NATIONAL FINALS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS