



DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS



The American Legion

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

~ A Constitutional Speech Contest ~

\$13,075 in Scholarships

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

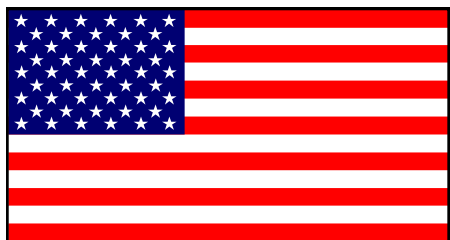
The American Legion National High School Oratorical Program, following successful Department Competition, was first conducted as a National Contest in 1938 with eleven Departments competing. In recent years approximately 30,000 contestants have participated each year, representing fifty-two Departments 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 \$13,075 in scholarships each year to Department Finalists.

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

AMERICAN LEGION CONTACT:

Name _____

Phone _____

Illinois Department of Education

The Illinois High School Association

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 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 Division can sponsor six (6)* contestants to compete at the Department Contest that is scheduled on the first Saturday in March. Divisions are limited to NOT MORE than 4 Alternates. Divisions are encouraged to determine their 6 contestants. The Application and a check in the amount of \$125 for each contestant must be received at Department Headquarters no later than February 3, 2012. **Divisions with more than six (6) contestants are encouraged to host a local contest at either Post, County, District and or Division level.*

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.

AWARDS

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Contestants will compete in five groups of six (6) in the semi-finals.

1st Place Advances to the finals
2nd Place Receives \$450 scholarship
3rd Place Receives \$350 scholarship
4th Place Receives \$250 scholarship
5th Place Receives \$125 scholarship
6th Place Receives \$100 scholarship

Finals

1st Place Receives a \$2000 scholarship
2nd Place Receives a \$1500 scholarship
3rd Place Receives a \$1200 scholarship
4th Place Receives a \$1000 scholarship
5th Place Receives a \$1000 scholarship

ALL Department scholarship awards are payable to accredited Universities or Colleges in the United States.

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

75th Annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

By action of the National Americanism Commission,
the Assigned Topics to be used in 2012 contests are as follows.

ASSIGNED TOPICS FOR 2012

Article I, section 9, clause 2:

"The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it."

Article IV, section 2, clause 1:

"The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens of the several states."

Amendment 14, section 2, first

sentence: "Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed."

Amendment 15, section 1:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

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.

SPONSOR A CONTESTANT THEY ARE OUR FUTURE.

The American Legion Department of Illinois

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

~ A Constitutional Speech Contest ~



**ATHENA SALDANHA
SCHAUMBURG, IL**

2011

**AMERICAN LEGION HIGH SCHOOL
ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FINALIST**

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

| | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|
| 1938 | Thomas McEllin, Aurora | 1976 | Dale J. Trela, Evergreen Park |
| 1939 | Fleetwood McCoy, Chicago | 1977 | MARK R. THOMPSON, GLENN ELLYN* |
| 1940 | Kenneth Anderson, Chicago | 1978 | Jon Kastelic, Granite City |
| 1941 | Jane Croessmann, DuQuoin | 1979 | Sarah Tsiang, Wheaton |
| 1942 | David Smothers, Wheaton | 1980 | Douglas F. Curtis, Wheaton |
| 1943 | BURTON BERNARD, GRANITE CITY* | 1981 | Kenneth Rice, Des Plaines |
| 1944 | Melvin Cornfield, Chicago | 1982 | WILLIAM KEPHART, JR., CHILLICOTHE* |
| 1945 | David Gray, DeKalb | 1983 | Cathy Sarnecke, Wheaton |
| 1946 | William North, Park Ridge | 1984 | Julie Theriot, Wheaton |
| 1947 | James Werner, DuQuoin | 1985 | Steven William Brandy, Danville |
| 1948 | Philip Angeloff, Granite City | 1986 | Kent Ramler, Downers Grove |
| 1949 | Donald Pulliam, Danville | 1987 | Brent Damrow, Frankfort |
| 1950 | Ralph Billeter, Maywood | 1988 | Stephen Osunsami, Peoria |
| 1951 | Barbara Miller, E. St. Louis | 1989 | Shawn Chen, Glen Ellyn |
| 1952 | Gerald Goldman, Chicago | 1990 | Jane Park, Chicago |
| 1953 | Herbert Lassiter, Chicago | 1991 | Brian Baker, Glenview |
| 1954 | Robert B. Rosenberg, Chicago | 1992 | Brian Baker, Glenview |
| 1955 | David G. Sills, Peoria Heights | 1993 | Richard Janor, Harwood Heights |
| 1956 | Kenneth Schurter, Chicago | 1994 | Adam Smith, Northbrook |
| 1957 | David Cohler, Chicago | 1995 | Richard Janor, Harwood Heights |
| 1958 | Paul V. Black, Lansing | 1996 | Jamie Aussieker, Highland |
| 1959 | ROGER R. MAJAK, LANSING* | 1997 | Michael Masters, Winnetka |
| 1960 | Douglas Grandgeorge, Somonauk | 1998 | Julia Barrett, Oak Park |
| 1961 | James Edward Bond, Peoria | 1999 | Julia Barrett, Oak Park |
| 1962 | Robert I. Gordon, Highland Park | 2000 | Robert Goedert, Oak Park |
| 1963 | William (Bill) Thieman, Peoria | 2001 | April Kusper, Oak Park |
| 1964 | Frederick McDowell, Aurora | 2002 | MEGAN WYKES, PLANO* |
| 1965 | Thomas J. Santefort, South Holland | 2003 | Lucas Mette, Teutopolis |
| 1966 | Michael Duncheon, Danville | 2004 | JACQUELINE KEIDEL, BERWYN* |
| 1967 | David Lenny, Collinsville | 2005 | JOSHUA WILSON, GRIDLEY* |
| 1968 | David Lenny, Collinsville | 2006 | Casey Verkamp, Lisle |
| 1969 | Kathy Best, Peoria | 2007 | JARED CANFIELD, NAPERVILLE* |
| 1970 | Richard Prigge, Western Springs | 2008 | Heidi Erbsen, Pearl City |
| 1971 | Joel Richard Levin, Morton Grove | 2009 | HEIDI ERBSEN, PEARL CITY* |
| 1972 | Roger Jones, Chicago | 2010 | Matthew Schuhriemen, Naperville |
| 1973 | JOHN WESLEY FROST, PEORIA* | | |
| 1974 | Joseph Arthur Bates, Winnetka | | |
| 1975 | GRETCHEN WINTER, CHICAGO* | | |

* NATIONAL FINALS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS