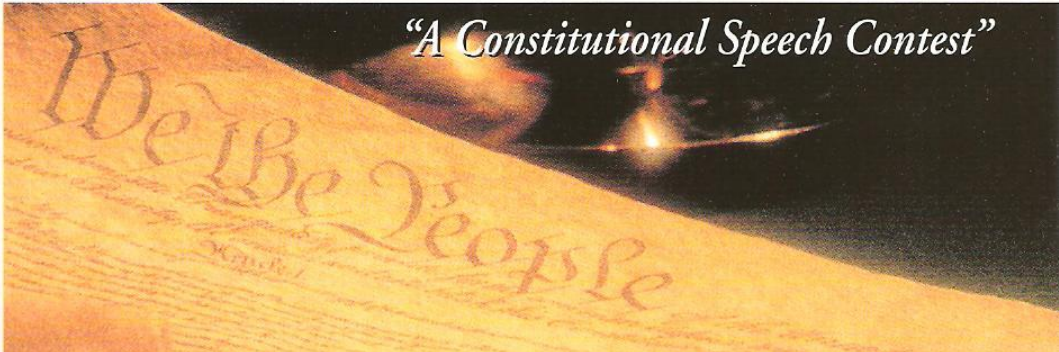




THE AMERICAN LEGION  
**High School Oratorical Scholarship Program**

*"A Constitutional Speech Contest"*



**Information for Prospective Students**



**2011 -2012**

**2012**  
**75<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COMPETITION**

**OPEN TO STUDENTS IN  
GRADES 9 TO 12**

<http://www.legion.org/oratorical>

**I'M INTERESTED.**

**WHAT WOULD I HAVE TO DO  
DURING THE CONTEST ?**

**DURING THE CONTEST YOU WOULD  
HAVE TO  
SPEAK TWICE:**

- 1. YOUR PREPARED ORATION  
8-10 MINUTES LONG**
- 2. AN “ASSIGNED TOPIC” SPEECH  
3-5 MINUTES LONG**





**THE PREPARED ORATION**

# **THE PREPARED ORATION**

**-Must be your original work**

**-On any topic having to do  
with the United States Constitution**

**-Emphasize the responsibilities of  
individual citizens to the government**

**-START WRITING EARLY  
TIME GETS AWAY FROM YOU WHEN  
SCHOOL STARTS !**

**-You can use the same speech all  
four years of High School. It belongs to you.**



# THE PREPARED ORATION

-You must memorize it.

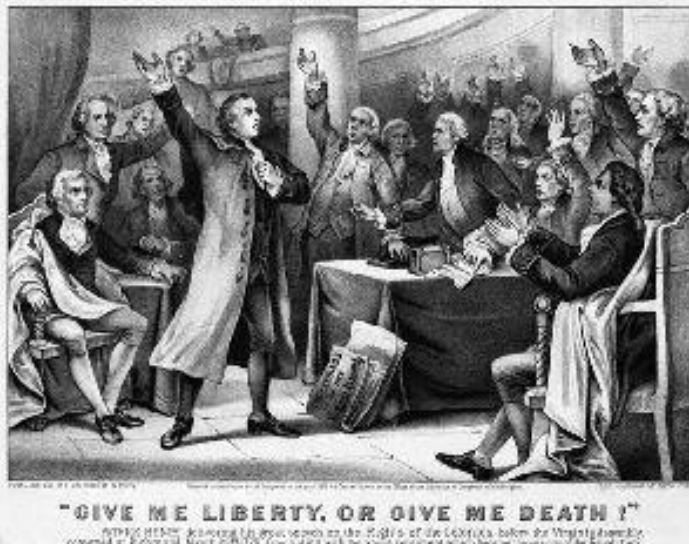
-No podium.

-No microphone.

-No notes.

-No help from the audience.

**THINK OF PATRICK HENRY  
DELIVERING AN IMPASSIONED  
SPEECH TO CONGRESS.**



## CHECK OUT

[http://www.legion.org/legiontv?v=cont\\_3\\_prepared\\_12791.flv](http://www.legion.org/legiontv?v=cont_3_prepared_12791.flv)

**This is a video of the 2011 National Champion  
Delivering her 8-10 minute Prepared Oration.**



# **THE PREPARED ORATION**

**YOU WILL BE TIMED  
AND JUDGED.**

**8 TO 10 MINUTES ON  
SOME ASPECT OF THE  
U.S. CONSTITUTION**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF  
INDIVIDUALS TO THE  
GOVERNMENT**

**MEMORIZED**



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program



**JUDGE'S SCORECARD**

|   |                                   | Contestant | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>A. CONTENT</b>   |                                   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1. Originality, freshness, directness, application of knowledge on topic. <b>16 points</b>  | Prepared Oration <b>12 points</b> |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2. Skill in selecting examples, description, analogies, specific data. <b>16 points</b>     | Prepared Oration <b>12 points</b> |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3. Logic (correctness of inference). <b>16 points</b>                                       | Prepared Oration <b>12 points</b> |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4. Comprehensiveness of knowledge, knows the subject matter. <b>22 points</b>               | Prepared Oration <b>16 points</b> |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>6 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>B. SPEAKING SKILLS</b>   |                                   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1. Voice and diction. <b>10 points</b>  | Prepared Oration <b>6 points</b>  |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2. Style: language, use, word arrangement transition, word selection. <b>10 points</b>      | Prepared Oration <b>6 points</b>  |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3. Body actions: poise, eye contact, posture, gestures. <b>10 points</b>                    | Prepared Oration <b>6 points</b>  |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Assigned Topic <b>4 points</b>    |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | <b>First Totals</b>               |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| PENALTIES: 1 point for each minute or fraction thereof over or under allotted time.         | <b>Prepared Oration</b>           |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | <b>Assigned Topic</b>             |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1-10 points for failure to speak on the Constitution  |                                   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | <b>Final Total Points</b>         |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>Position Number</b><br>Highest Points=1st place; Second Highest Points=2nd place, etc... | <b>Placement</b>                  |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Name of Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**THESE ARE THE CATEGORIES  
THE JUDGES WILL BE EVALUATING**



**THE “ASSIGNED” TOPIC**

# THE ASSIGNED TOPIC

**-4 new topics are chosen every year.**

**The topics for 2012 are:**

**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."

## THE ASSIGNED TOPIC

**-One of the “Assigned Topics” is chosen at random during the contest.**

**-You will be given 5 minutes to prepare your thoughts on that topic.**

**-Then you will give a 3 to 5 minute speech on that topic.**

**-So in other words, you need to be able to speak on any of the 4 potential topics.**



# **THE ASSIGNED TOPIC**

**AGAIN, YOU WILL BE  
TIMED AND JUDGED.**

**3 TO 5 MINUTES ON THE  
CHOSEN TOPIC.**

**MUST BE MEMORIZED.**

**JUDGES ARE LOOKING AT  
THE SAME CATEGORIES  
AS BEFORE.**

# **HOW DO I SIGN UP TO COMPETE ?**

**The Application Form is on  
the next slide. You can print it  
from there, or go to**

**<http://www.azlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/ORATORICAL-APPLICATION.pdf>**

**and print the form. Complete the form  
and mail to the address at the top.**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Department of Arizona  
4701 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 200  
Phoenix, AZ 85015-3799  
Phone (602) 264-7706**

**CONTESTANT APPLICATION**

Contestant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Prepared Oration: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(It's OK if you don't know the title yet. Send in your application anyway.)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please Print*

**SCHOOL REPORT**

Student's School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Faculty/Sponsor Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

I first became interested in the Oratorical Contest when: \_\_\_\_\_

---

I will abide by all rules of the Department of Arizona and The National High School Oratorical Contest Committee and follow the instructions of each Contest Chairman.

Contestant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS FORM MUST BE SENT TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS BEFORE JANUARY 15**

**DO NOT WAIT FOR CONFIRMATION  
THAT YOU HAVE BEEN “ACCEPTED”.  
ONCE YOU SEND YOUR APPLICATION  
TO US, YOU ARE A CONTESTANT.**



**MAIL THE FORM AS SOON  
AS POSSIBLE AND**

**START WORKING ON YOUR SPEECHES !**

**DO NOT WAIT !!!**

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU  
TO WORK WITH A SPEECH COACH !!!**



# **WHEN AND WHERE IS THE CONTEST ?**

**-Where and When you compete varies depending on where you live in Arizona, and how many students enter the contest.**

**-Have your speeches ready to perform by mid February 2012.  
(Remember, you have to speak 2 times at each competition.)**

**-You will be called by a Chairman with the EXACT date, time, and place for YOUR contest.**

**THIS IS A “PROGRESSIVE CONTEST”.**

**WHEN YOU “WIN” A CONTEST, YOU  
WILL MOVE ON TO THE NEXT CONTEST,  
PROBABLY A WEEK LATER.**

**The Contest Levels are:**

- LOCAL or POST**
- DISTRICT (finished by February 18, 2012)**
- AREA (finished by February 25, 2012)**
- STATE (March 3, 2012, Ahwatukee)**
- NATIONAL (April 13-15, 2012, Indianapolis)**

**AGAIN, DEPENDING ON WHERE  
STUDENTS LIVE AND HOW MANY  
ENTER THE CONTEST, NOT ALL WILL  
START AT THE SAME LEVEL.**

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY  
IS AWARDED AT ALL LEVELS  
OF THE CONTEST.  
AWARDS RANGE FROM  
\$10 TO \$1500**

**THE TOP THREE STUDENTS AT  
THE NATIONAL CONTEST  
RECEIVE  
\$14,000  
\$16,000  
and  
\$18,000**

**COMMUNICATION  
WITH THE CHAIRMAN IS  
ESSENTIAL TO A GOOD EXPERIENCE.**

**ROGER MUNCHBACH**

**(wife, Debra, can answer questions, also.)**

**[legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com](mailto:legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com)**

**480-705-9527**

