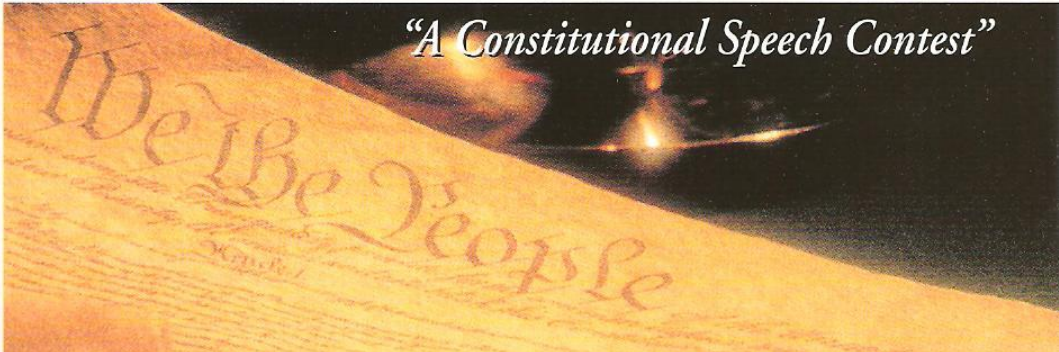




THE AMERICAN LEGION  
**High School Oratorical Scholarship Program**

*"A Constitutional Speech Contest"*



**Information for Prospective Students**



**2012 -2013**

**2013**  
**76<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.

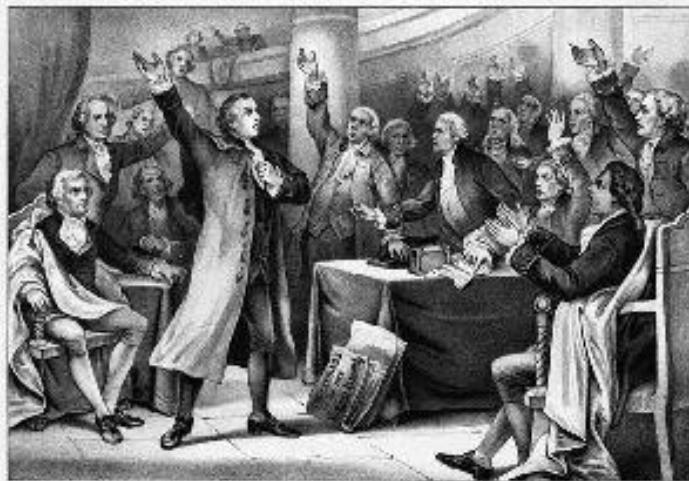
-No podium.

-No microphone.

-No notes.

-No help from the audience.

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



**"GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH!"**

PATRICK HENRY delivering his famous speech on the Rights of the Colonies before the Virginia Assembly, engraved by Edward Moxon, 1776. The painting will be shown on the wall of the classroom.

## CHECK OUT

<http://www.legion.org/legiontv?pid=D1D27913E787209F&v=sERBAllqTm0>

**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 - "A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST"

## JUDGE'S SCORECARD

NAME & NUMBER OF JUDGE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>A. Content</u>		Contestants			
		1	2	3	4
1. Originality, freshness, directness, application of knowledge on topic.	Prepared Oration 12 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
2. Skill in selecting examples, description, analogies, specific data.	Prepared Oration 12 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
3. Logic (correctness of inference)	Prepared Oration 12 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
4. Comprehensiveness of knowledge, knows the subject matter.	Prepared Oration 16 points				
	Assigned Topic 6 points				
<u>B. Speaking Skills</u>		1	2	3	4
1. Voice and Diction	Prepared Oration 6 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
2. Style: language use, word arrangement, transition, word selection.	Prepared Oration 6 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
3. Body actions, poise, eye contact, posture, gestures	Prepared Oration 6 points				
	Assigned Topic 4 points				
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>					
PENALTIES: 1 point for each minute or fraction thereof over or under allotted time	Prepared Oration				
	Assigned Topic				
1-10 points for failure to speak on the Constitution					
<b>Final Total Points</b>					
Position Number - Record of Choice (Highest Points = 1st place, second highest points = 2nd place, etc.)					
Score all contestants - NO TIES PERMITTED					
		Judge's Signature: _____			

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



**THE “ASSIGNED” TOPIC**

# THE ASSIGNED TOPIC

4 new topics are chosen each year

## Topics for 2013 contest

**Article II, section 1, paragraph 5:** No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

**Amendment 22, first sentence:** No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once.

**Amendment 2:** A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

**Amendment 24:** The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.

## 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 February 1, 2013.  
(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 16, 2013)**
- AREA (finished by February 23, 2013)**
- STATE (March 2, 2013, Ahwatukee)**
- NATIONAL (April 19-21, 2013, 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**



**THE AMERICAN LEGION HAS  
PARTNERED WITH  
THE NATIONAL FORENSIC  
LEAGUE. STUDENTS  
AND THEIR SCHOOLS RECEIVE  
POINTS FROM THE  
NFL FOR PARTICIPATING IN  
THE AMERICAN  
LEGION CONTEST !!!!!**

**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**

