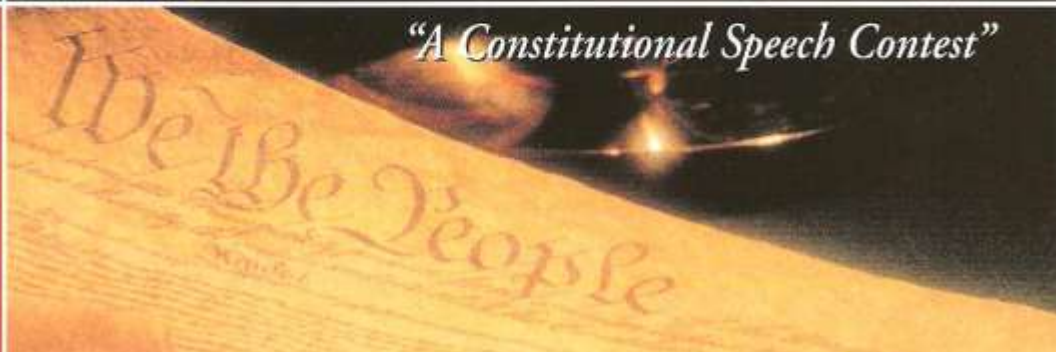




THE AMERICAN LEGION
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

"A Constitutional Speech Contest"



Information for Prospective Students



2015 -2016

2016
79th ANNUAL COMPETITION

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

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

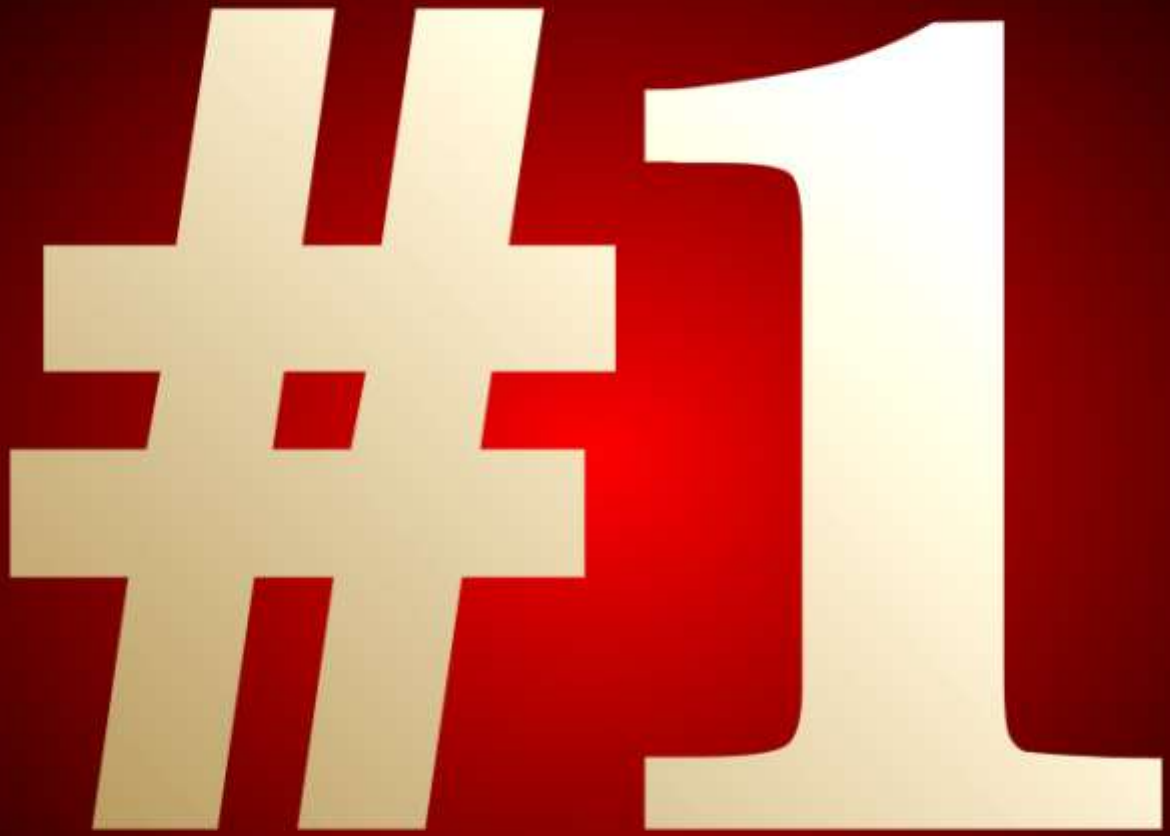
I'M INTERESTED.

**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.

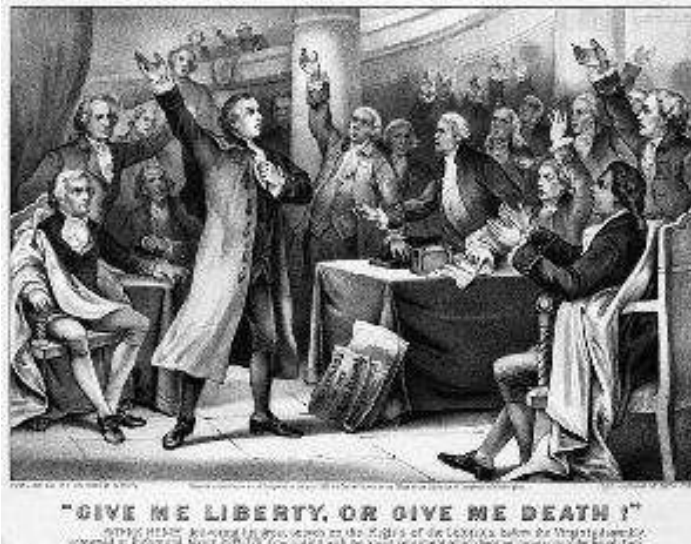
-No podium.

-No microphone.

-No notes.

-No help from the audience.

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



CHECK OUT

<http://portal.stretchinternet.com/legion/full.htm?eventId=190315&streamType=video>

This is a video of the 2015 National Finals. (The video starts at 7 minutes into the recording—be patient !)



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: _____			
		Contestants			
<u>A. Content</u>		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				
SUB-TOTAL					
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					
Final Total Points					
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 Assigned Topics for 2016 Oratorical Contest

Amendment 8

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment 26

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article 1 Section 9 Paragraph 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 1 Section 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.

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.

OR

Email it to me at
legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com

THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Arizona
4701 N. 19th Ave., Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85015-3799
Phone (602) 264-7706
legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com

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 OR EMAILED TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS BEFORE JANUARY 1

**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, 2016.
(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 20, 2016)**
- AREA (finished by February 27, 2016)**
- STATE (March 5, 2016, Ahwatukee)**
- NATIONAL (April 15-17, 2016, Indianapolis)**

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

**ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2016,
THE DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN, ROGER
MUNCHBACH, WILL BE CONDUCTING
A PRE-CONTEST REHEARSAL/CRITIQUE
SESSION AT AMERICAN LEGION
HEADQUARTERS IN PHOENIX.**

**STUDENTS CAN BRING THEIR
COMPLETED SPEECHES FOR
INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE AND
COMMENTS. THIS IS NOT
MANDATORY. TIMES WILL BE
SCHEDULED WITH MR. MUNCHBACH.**

**ANY ARIZONA STUDENT MAY
SCHEDULE A TIME, BUT THEY ARE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN
TRANSPORTATION.**

**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 SPEECH AND
DEBATE ASSOCIATION.
STUDENTS
AND THEIR SCHOOLS RECEIVE
POINTS FROM THE
NSDA 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

480-705-9527

