

1. All interested students should submit an application no later than December 7, 2014. **All entries are to be mailed to a local Post or District Oratorical Chairman.** A local post can be found at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

2. The contest will consist of two parts. (A) An 8-10 minute, memorized orations will be given on some phase of the United States Constitution. (B) A 3-5 minute extemporaneous oration on one of the four "assigned topics" assigned by National Headquarters. Topics can be found at [www.legion.org/oratorical/topics](http://www.legion.org/oratorical/topics)

3. The contestant may not use any notes or prompts when giving their oration.

4. A minimum of five (5) judges will judge all contests, grading independently. Local and county contests can be judged by a minimum of three (3) judges.

5. The tabulators will tabulate all scores of the judges and apply any penalties as directed by the Chairman of the contest.

6. The Chairman of the contest will verify the results and announce the winners.

7. The score sheets, timekeeper's card and tabulation card will become the property of The American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania Oratorical Committee.

8. The Department contest will be under the direct supervision of the Oratorical Committee consisting of: Department Commander, Department Adjutant, Department Oratorical Chairman, Department Section Vice Chairmen &

Inter-District Chairmen appointed by the Department Commander. In the contest, final authority on all issues raised will remain with the Department Chairmen listed on the reverse side of this brochure or any other members the Department Commander may designate.

9. All rules and regulations pertaining to the contest will follow the National rules and regulations. Rules can be found at [www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/oratoricalrules.pdf](http://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/oratoricalrules.pdf)

10. Those individuals responsible for conducting the contest shall observe the rules strictly. The "assigned topics" shall be used at all levels of competition.

11. The Department winner must be certified with the National Headquarters no later than March 23, 2015. The Oratorical Committee has established the following contest dates with the understanding that the Department Chairman must approve any later date:

Contests must be held **BY** these dates, so can be held earlier than the dates listed.

Post/School Finals – Sat., January 10, 2015

County Finals – Sat., January 17, 2015

District Finals – Sat., January 24, 2015

Inter-District Finals – Sat., January 31, 2015

Philadelphia County – Sat., February 7, 2015

Allegheny County – Sat., February 7, 2015

Sectional Finals – Sat., February 14, 2015

**Department Finals – Sat., March 14, 2015**

National Finals – April 10 – 12, 2015

12. **Department finals will be held in the Forum Building at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 14, 2015.** Any changes in the contest finals will be announced as they occur. **A banquet will be held on Friday evening, March 13, 2015 to honor all contestants.**

## AWARDS

### First Place Winner

\$7,500 scholarship, plaque and expense paid trip to the Pennsylvania American Legion State Convention to present his/her winning oration, plus the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania in the National and Regional Contests and receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship from the National Organization.

### Second Place Winner

\$5,000 scholarship and plaque

### Third Place Winner

\$4,000 scholarship and plaque.

*NOTE: Scholarships awarded by the Pennsylvania American Legion may be used to attend a college or university in the United States. The scholarships will be forwarded directly to the student at their home address upon receipt of request of funds form. If the contestant chooses not to attend college, an equivalent US Savings Bond will be awarded.*



## Application Form

### 2015 High School Oratorical Contest

## Oratorical Contest Committee

**Department Commander: Dennis Haas**

PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

**Department Adjutant: Kit D. Watson**

PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

**Department Chairman: Carl Olshefskie**

124 Seventh St, Renovo, PA 17764

(570) 923-0337

**Sectional Vice Chairmen****Eastern: John McGauley**, 424 E Arlington St.

Shenandoah, PA 17976 (570) 462-3077

**Central: Bill Hardy**, 1140 Hetrick Ave,

Palmyra, PA 17078 (717) 838-6735

**Western: Bob Munhall**, 4137 Ewalt Rd,

Gibsonia, PA 15044 (316) 636-2396

**Inter-District Coordinators****1-5: Aaron Campbell, Jr.** (609) 871-5618

60 Hawthorne Ln., Willingboro, NJ 08046

**8-9-10: Charles Wahl**, (267)261-7281

703 E Broad St, Quakertown, PA 18951

**11-12-15: Tom Sheridan** (570) 226-4894

1021 Lower Demunds Rd., Dallas, PA 18612

**13-14-30: Mike Bodnar** (610) 745-1512

559 Catasauqua Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052

**16-17-18: Albert Hess** (570) 524-4367

1009 Buffalo Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837

**19-22: Norlynn John** (717) 264-4549

7430 Nyesville Rd., Chambersburg, PA 17202

**20-21: Al Wertz** (814) 934-4922

258 Maple Hollow Road, Duncansville, PA 16635

**23-27-28: Chuck Hartman** (724) 791-2279

PO Box 108, Eau Claire, PA 16030

**24-25-31: Dan Debolt** (724) 447-2959

745 Deep Valley Road, New Freeport, PA 15352

**26-29: Ben Suchocki** (814) 449-0734

6132 Spires Drive, Erie, PA 16509

**32-33-35-36: Mike Murphy** (412) 781-5691

5421 McCandless Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No.\_\_\_\_\_

High School\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the rules and regulations to participate in the Oratorical Contest, sponsored by The American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania. I have also read the National brochure and agree to abide by those rules and regulations as well.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

# 2015 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

GRADES 9-12



## “WE THE PEOPLE”

### RULES & REGULATIONS

**PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION**[www.pa-legion.com](http://www.pa-legion.com)**717-730-9100**