

1. All interested students should submit an application no later than December 9, 2016. **All entries are to be mailed to a local Post or District Oratorical Chairman.** A local post can be found at 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

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

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 18, 2017. 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 7, 2017

County Finals – Sat., January 14, 2017

District Finals – Sat., January 21, 2017

Inter-District Finals – Sat., February 4, 2017

Philadelphia County – Sat., February 11, 2017

Allegheny County – Sat., February 18, 2017

Sectional Finals – Sat., February 25, 2017

Department Finals – Sat., March 11, 2017

National Finals – April 21 – 23, 2017

12. **Department finals will be held in the Forum Building at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 11, 2017.** Any changes in the contest finals will be announced as they occur. **A banquet will be held on Friday evening, March 10, 2017 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.



Application Form

2017 High School
Oratorical Contest

Oratorical Contest Committee

Department Commander: Carl Olshefskie
PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Adjutant: Kit D. Watson
PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Chairman: Robert John
7430 Nyesville Rd, Chambersburg, Pa 17202
(717) 816-4549 22districtpa@gmail.com

Sectional Vice Chairmen

Eastern: Pat O'Brien, 3345 Fairdale Rd
Philadelphia, PA 19154 (215) 475-0421

Central: Dale Miller, 3750 Starview Rd,
Mt Wolf, PA 17347 (717) 870-3916

Western: Mike Murphy, 5421 McCandless Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15201 (412) 781-5691

Inter-District Coordinators

1-5: Aaron Campbell, Jr. (609) 871-5618
60 Hawthorne Ln., Willingboro, NJ 08046

8-9-10: Barry Amole, (610)933-5152
305 Starr St, Phoenixville, PA 19460

11-12-15: Jesse Turner (570) 864-3740
1270 Bethel Hill Rd, Shickshinny, PA 18655

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: Ryan Armstrong (724) 984-3945
301 S Pine St, Carmichaels, PA 15320

26-29: Ben Suchocki (814) 449-0734
6132 Spires Drive, Erie, PA 16509

32-33-36: Mike Murphy (412) 781-5691
5421 McCandless Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15201

2017
HIGH SCHOOL
ORATORICAL
CONTEST
GRADES 9-12



“WE THE PEOPLE”

RULES & REGULATIONS



PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION

www.pa-legion.com

717-730-9100

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_____