

1. All interested students should submit an application no later than December 7, 2015. **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 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 9, 2016

County Finals – Sat., January 16, 2016

District Finals – Sat., January 23, 2016

Inter-District Finals – Sat., February 6, 2016

Philadelphia County – Sat., February 13, 2016

Allegheny County – Sat., February 13, 2016

Sectional Finals – Sat., February 20, 2016

Department Finals – Sat., March 12, 2016

National Finals – April 15 – 17, 2016

12. **Department finals will be held in the Forum Building at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 12, 2016.** Any changes in the contest finals will be announced as they occur. **A banquet will be held on Friday evening, March 11, 2016 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

2016 High School Oratorical Contest

Oratorical Contest Committee

Department Commander: Mike Stelacio

PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Adjutant: Kit D. Watson

PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Chairman: Joe Gunkel

193 Tenby Chase Dr, H-55, Delran, NJ 08075
(856) 461-2160

Sectional Vice Chairmen

Eastern: Pat O'Brien, 3345 Fairdale Rd
Philadelphia, PA 19154 (215) 637-2190

Central: Mike Miskell, 1302 St Ann St,
Scranton, PA 18504 (570) 430-2115

Western: John Prichard, 108 Holland Dr,
Butler, PA 16002 (724) 282-1146

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

32-33-35-36: 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_____

2016 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

GRADES 9-12



“WE THE PEOPLE”

RULES & REGULATIONS



PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION

www.pa-legion.com

717-730-9100