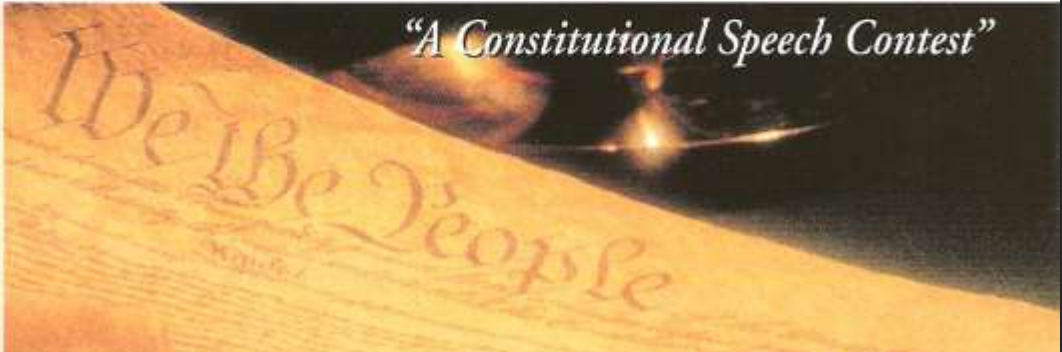




THE AMERICAN LEGION  
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

*"A Constitutional Speech Contest"*



**Information for Prospective Students**

> **2017 -2018**

**2018**  
**81st 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.**





## **CHECK OUT**

<https://www.legion.org/oratorical/videos/PLD1D27913E787209F/odyJ7BF6Fg4>

**This is a video of the 2017 National Champion delivering his 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: _____			
		<b>Contestants</b>			
<b><u>A. Content</u></b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
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				
<b><u>B. Speaking Skills</u></b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
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

### Assigned Topics for 2018 Oratorical Contest

#### **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 3**

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

#### **Amendment 15**

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2.

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

#### **Article 2 Section 4**

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

## 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

[azlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/ORATORICAL-APPLICATION.2016.pdf](http://azlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/ORATORICAL-APPLICATION.2016.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](mailto:legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com)

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
Department of Arizona  
4701 N. 19<sup>th</sup> 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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 January 20, 2018.  
(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 17, 2018)**
- AREA (finished by February 24, 2018)**
- STATE (March 3, 2018, Ahwatukee)**
- NATIONAL (April 13-15, 2018, Indianapolis)**

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

**ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2018,  
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](mailto:legionoratoricalcontest@msn.com)**

**480-705-9527**

