

arlegion.org

AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

September 13, 2023

Attention: Arkansas Educators

The American Legion has sponsored the High School Oratorical Contest for 84 years. The purpose of the National High School Contest is to develop knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to speak clearly, intelligently, and acceptance of the responsibilities as well as the privileges of American citizenship. The National Secondary School Principals has placed the program on the NASSP Advisory List of Contest and Activities for 2023-2024.

The Department contest will take place on Saturday morning, March 23, 2024. The following cash scholarships will be awarded:

- **\$2,000 for First Place**
- **\$1,500 for Second Place**
- **\$1,000 for Third Place**

The Department winner will represent The Department of Arkansas at the National level, which includes an all-expense paid trip with a chaperone to Indianapolis, Indiana. The student will receive an additional cash scholarship award of \$1500.00 for attending the Indianapolis Contest. Scholarships are presented to the three finalists in the final round of the national contests as follows: **1st place - \$25,000; 2nd place - \$22,500; 3rd place - \$20,000.**

For more information you may contact your local American Legion Post or The American Legion Department of Arkansas Headquarters at 1-877-243-9799 (toll free), 1-501-375-1104 and email: alegion@swbell.net, or at our web site <http://www.arlegion.org/programs.html> or you can find additional information by going to <https://www.legion.org/oratorical>



Roger Lacy
Department Oratorical Chairman

arlegion.org

September 13, 2023

TO: ALL POST COMMANDERS, ORATORICAL CHAIRPERSONS
FROM: ROGER LACY, DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CHAIRMAN
SUBJECT: AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTESTS

Now is the time to contact the High Schools in your area to see if they have students interested in participating in The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. **Enclosed is a copy of Contest Application and the Contestant Certification Form**, (Make as many copies as needed). **The 2023-2024 Official Contest Rules and Topics** are only available on line. Please go to http://www.arlegion.org/files/Oratorical_Packet_letters_2023-24.pdf to download a copy of rules and topics. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact Department Headquarters and we will download a copy for you.

Contest applications must be submitted to the Department Oratorical Chairman, by January 5, 2024.

Contestants must be certified to **Department Headquarters**, no later than **February 16, 2024**, all contestants are required to present their prepared oration to the Post and/or a civic organization a total of three times.

Department Contest will be held Saturday, **March 23, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** – location to be announced.

Please advise Department Headquarters immediately as to **the time and place of your Post Contest**, as we receive many phone calls asking for this information. **Department Winners** will receive:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| First Place | \$2,000 |
| Second Place | \$1,500 |
| Third Place | \$1,000 |

The **Department First Place Winner** who participates in the first round of the National Contest will receive a **\$1,500** scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to the second round, but does not advance to the final round will receive an additional **\$1,500** scholarship.

National Finalists will receive the following scholarships:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| First Place | \$25,000 |
| Second Place | \$22,500 |
| Third Place | \$20,000 |

Duplicate as needed

DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CONTEST
arlegion.org
CONTEST APPLICATION
(To Be Completed By Student)

Contestant Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Are you a United States Citizen? Yes _____ No _____ if no, are you a resident alien? Yes _____ No _____

Parents Name _____ Day Time Phone _____

SCHOOL REPORT

High School _____ Grade _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Phone _____ School Fax _____

Counselors Name _____ Email _____

I first became interested in the Oratorical Contest when:

I will abide by all the rules of the Department of Arkansas and the National High School Oratorical Contest Committee and follow the instructions of contest sponsors and chairman. I hereby attest that my Prepared Oration and Assigned Topic presentations are my original work.

Applicants Signature _____ Date _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Sponsored by American Legion Post or District _____

Post or District Chairman or Officer _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Students should submit this application by January 5, 2024

TO: Department Oratorical Chairman, Roger Lacy
PO Box 3280
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

arlegion.org

ORATORICAL CONTEST CERTIFICATION FORM

This is to certify that the following contestant:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
(Street or Box Number)

(City) (Zip Code)

Phone Number: _____

Name of High School: _____

Home Schooled **Age:** _____ **Grade:** _____

Met certification requirements on _____, 20_____, under the sponsorship of
Post No. _____, _____, Arkansas.

Title of Prepared Oration _____

Contest according to: _____
(Chairman)

(Date) (American Legion Officer)

(Title)

Send Certification to Department Headquarters by February 16, 2024.

The American Legion
Department of Arkansas
Roger Lacy, Oratorical Chairman
PO Box 3280
Little Rock, AR 72203

Duplicate as needed