

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

★ 2021 ★

MINNESOTA CONTEST RULES

Sponsored by
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA
20 West 12th St., Room 300A
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

THE AMERICAN LEGION
National Americanism Commission
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206



Approved by
**The National Association of
Secondary-School Principals**
Since 1943

**EIGHTY-FOURTH
HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL
CONTEST**

The purpose of The American Legion's National High School Oratorical Contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of High School Students, and to win Scholarship money. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

THE STATE SEMI-FINALS WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021, AT THE OSSEO AND ANOKA AMERICAN LEGION POSTS IN THE MORNING. THE FINALS WILL BE HELD IN THE AFTERNOON AT THE ANOKA AMERICAN LEGION POST. **All District Contestants MUST be certified to Department Headquarters no later than February 17, 2021.**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The four finalists in the American Legion Department of Minnesota Contest receive scholarships which may be used to attend any post-secondary educational institution in the United States. Winners receive \$1,500; Runner-Up receives \$1,000; 3rd place \$700; 4th place \$500.

NATIONAL LEVEL COMPETITION

The 2021 National Oratorical Contest will be held at the Wyndham Indianapolis West April 9–11, 2021, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Quarter-final and semi-finals are scheduled for Saturday, April 10, with the Championship round on Sunday, April 11. April 11th will be a travel day for contestants.

Scholarship awards in the amount of 1st place - \$25,000; 2nd place - \$22,500; 3rd place - \$20,000 are presented to the three finalists in the Final Round. Each Department (State) winner who participates in the first round of the National Contest will receive a \$2,000 Scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the Final Round, will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship.

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA CONTESTS ALL CONTESTS TO CONFORM TO NATIONAL CONTEST RULES EXCEPT AS LISTED BELOW:

POST: Local Post contests should be held prior to December 31, 2020. Notes and prompting is permitted at the Post level if all are treated in a like manner. **The extemporaneous (assigned topic) is not required at the local contest.** Each Post is encouraged to send a Post winner to the District level competition. If you have more than 1 competitor, you will need to hold a local contest to determine your winner who will advance to the District competition. **DISTRICT:** Each District Chairperson will notify the Posts within their District of the site, date and time of their District contest, **preferably before February 17th.** This contest will be conducted using the National rules, and will include the extemporaneous (assigned topic) feature. **District Chairpersons shall certify to the Department Headquarters a District Champion from a Post in their respective District no later than February 19, 2021.** Winner must be certified in writing, and your winner information must be on the **2021 District Winner Form.**

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible participants in the American Legion Oratorical Contest shall be citizens and or residents of the United States, and a bona fide student herein described as any student under the age of twenty (20) years on the date of the National Finals Contest and who are presently enrolled in a high school (public, parochial, military, private or registered home school) in which the curriculum of said high school is considered to be of high school level commencing with grade nine (9) and terminating with grade twelve (12). Students must be enrolled in high school during the time of participation at any level of **The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. The three finalists of a National Finals Contest will be ineligible for further participation at any level.**

Assigned Topics for 2021 Oratorical Contest

Article I, Section 7

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills. Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; [2] If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by Yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

Article II, Section 3

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

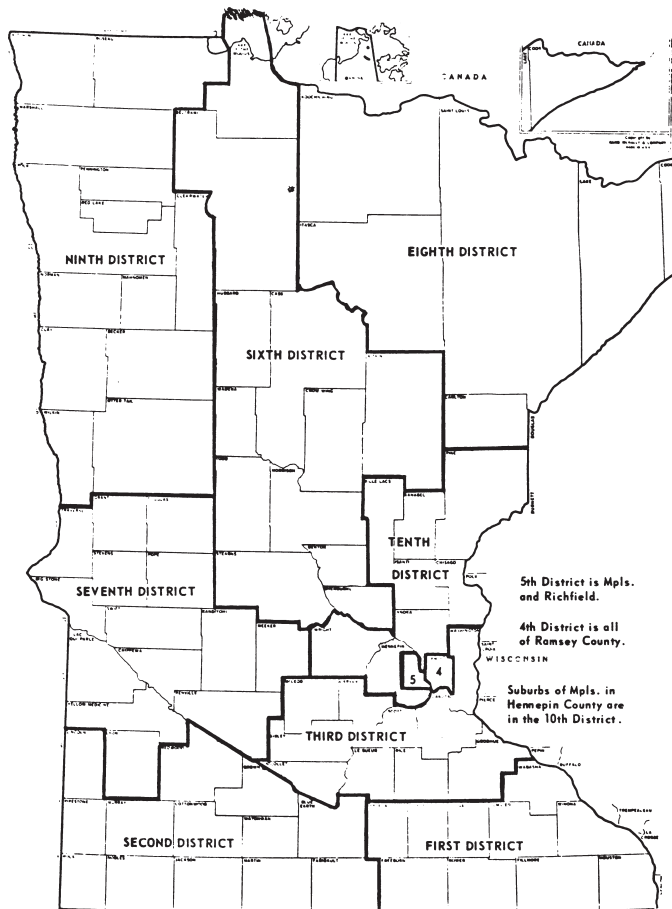
Article III, Section 1

The judicial Power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behavior, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Article XXII, Section 1

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

The 10 Districts American Legion Department of Minnesota



DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST CHAIRPERSONS

First	Sylvan Fix	507-313-3376	papafixone@gmail.com
Second	Brad Pagel	605-366-3025	bppagel@gmail.com
Third	Don Walser	320-894-9421	dwalser@hutchtel.net
Fourth	Dave Dahl	651-917-8487	david.charles.dahl@gmail.com
Fifth	Jamie Woods	317-666-1702	jamiewoods79@gmail.com
Sixth	Jim Lucas	218-821-7347	hjlucas@tds.net
Seventh	John Daniels	605-496-6023	jfdaniels@gmail.com
Eighth	Jennifer Havlick	218-206-5796	jennifer.havlick@outlook.com
Ninth	Bill Dumke	218-329-1063	billdumke@yahoo.com
Tenth	Cliff Newman	612-298-7259	cancnewman226@gmail.com

Other

State Chair	Cliff Newman	612-298-7259	cancnewman226@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Amanda England	612-269-0275	a.s.England86@gmail.com
Dept Office	Jennifer Kelley	651-291-1800	jkelly@mnlegion.org

Provisions are made for the contestants to be accompanied by a chaperon at the Department, and National Contest Finals. One or both parents may chaperon the contestant. Meals, lodging and transportation costs are paid for both the contestant and chaperon at the Department and the National levels of competition.

**If you need any further assistance
please contact one of the following:**

- 1 - District Chairman (names listed above)
- 2 - Cliff Newman: 612-298-7259 • cancnewman226@gmail.com or Jennifer Kelley: 651-291-1800 • jkelly@mnlegion.org