

High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

★ 2023 ★

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-SIXTH
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 25, 2023, 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 **SHOULD** be certified to Department Headquarters no later than **February 15, 2023**.

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 2023 National Oratorical Contest will be held at the Wyndham Indianapolis West April 21–23, 2023, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Quarter-final and semi-finals are scheduled for Saturday, April 22, with the Championship round on Sunday, April 23. April 21st 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, 2022. 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 15th.** This contest will be conducted using the National rules, and will include the extemporaneous (assigned topic) feature. Winner must be certified in writing, and your winner information must be on the **2023 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 2023 Oratorical Contest

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

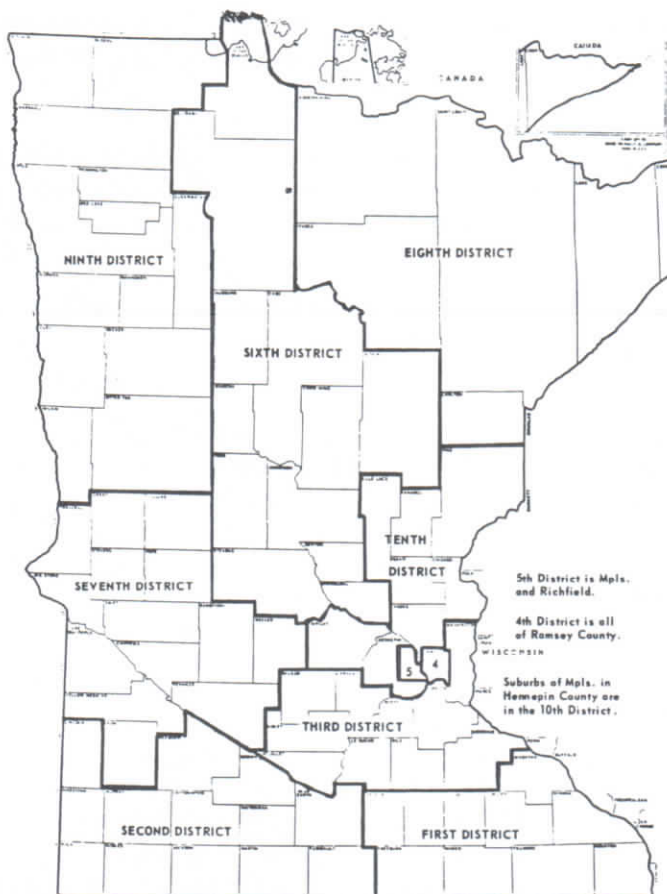
Amendment XIV, Section 1

All persons born naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Amendment XVI

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

The 10 Districts American Legion Department of Minnesota



DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST CHAIRPERSONS

First	Sylvan Fix	507-313-3376	papafixone@gmail.com
Second	Roxanne Zoet	507-621-8542	roxzoet@gmail.com
Third	Diane Jankowski	612-227-6506	diane@onehawk.com
Fourth	Lou Michaels	651-489-8006	louthephotoguy@gmail.com
Fifth	Jamie Woods	317-666-1702	jamiewoods79@gmail.com
Sixth	Jim Lucas	218-821-7343	walkerpost2134@gmail.com
Seventh	Rueben Nathe	320-593-8654	ruebenn@hutchtel.net
Eighth	Larry Pocrnich	218-969-2460	lancerlarl@gmail.com
Ninth	Eric Wilkens	218-234-7315	eswilkens@msn.com
Tenth	Cliff Newman	612-298-7259	cancnewman226@gmail.com

Other

State Chair	Jamie Woods	317-666-1702	jamiewoods79@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 - Jamie Woods: 317-666-1702 • jamiewoods79@gmail.com or
Jennifer Kelley: 651-291-1800 • jkelly@mnlegion.org