

**2023 RULES AND REGULATIONS
86th ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL
ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM
www.azlegion.org/programs**



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA**

Mike Simon - Department Commander

Steve Chavez, Chairman

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Department Oratorical Committee

The National Contest Rules Govern Department Contests (See National Contest Brochure) <http://www.legion.org/oratorical>

THE DEPARTMENT PRIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

First Prize \$1700.00 plus an additional \$1500.00 scholarship upon participation in the First Round of the National Finals in Indianapolis, Indiana.

All Contestants at the Department Finals receive Cash Scholarships.

The Department (State) Oratorical champion will automatically advance into the National American Legion Oratorical Competition. The FIRST and SECOND ROUNDS of the National Contest will be held of April 21 - 23 2023. The NATIONAL FINALS will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2023, followed by a banquet honoring all the contestants.

Inquiries may be directed to:

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Area “A” Chairman
Maggie Montijo

Area “B” Chairman
Jim Borgman

Area “C” Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF AZ PAST CHAMPIONS

2022 Caleb Rasor, BASIS Oro Valley
2021 Hannah Shin, BASIS Oro Valley
2020 Caleb Doerksen, Verrado HS
2019 Cassandra Lawson, BASIS Oro Valley
2018 Kylie Cochrane, Scottsdale
2017 Juliana Martinez, Pusch Ridge
2016 Elizabeth Baxter, AZ Lutheran
2015 Chetan Bafna, Kofa High School
2014 Chetan Bafna, Kofa High School
2013 Alex Kate Halvey, Pusch Ridge
2012 Rachel Moses, Home Schooled
2011 Rachel Moses, Home Schooled
2010 Nicholas Everetts, Fountain Hills H.S.
2009 Clayton Masterman, River Valley H.S.
2008 Michael Fleming, Mesa H.S.
2007 Ronni Stirling, Coronado H.S.
2006 Michele O'Shea, Cactus H.S.

2005 Michele O'Shea, Cactus H.S.
2004 Michele O'Shea, Cactus H.S.
2003 Thomas Joraanstad, Brophy Preparatory-
2002 Thomas Joraanstad, Brophy Preparatory
2001 Thomas Joraanstad, Brophy Preparatory
2000 Sarah Joraanstad, Xavier Preparatory
1999 Joshua Deahl, Mountain View H.S.
1998 William Self, Mountain View H.S.
1997 Katherine Forrest, Mountain View H.S.
1996 Kaleen Love, Mountain View H.S. -
1995 Shira Shafir, Sunnyslope H.S.
1994 Shira Shafir, Sunnyslope H.S.
1993 Soraya Ali-Akbarian, Sunnyslope H.S.
1992 Jimi Jo Story, Mingus H.S.
1991 Michael Wawro, Sunnyslope H.S.
1990 Jamie Lee Wagner, Chaparral H.S.
1989 Mark Light-Orr, Deer Valley H.S.
1988 William Gates, Deer Valley H.S.
1987 William Gates, Deer Valley H.S.
1986 Matthew Ortega
1985 Steven R. Houbek
1984 H. David Preston
1983 James F. Ireland
1982 Matthew Fitzgerald, Casa Grande H.S.
1981 Matthew Fitzgerald, Casa Grande H.S.
1980 Bartholmew Fitzgerald, Casa Grande H.S.
1979 Victoria Fimea
1978 Randi-Jean Hedin
1977 Thomas R. Harrell
1976 Arleen Armstrong
1975 Sari Lisa Horwitz
1974 Joyce Helen Weaver
1966 Ronald T. McCoy, Phoenix AZ
1938 John Jansen, Nogales AZ

ENTRY FORM

Students may submit the proper Entry Form to participate in the Program between June 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023. This form may be obtained from Department Headquarters, www.azlegion.org/programs, your school, or any of the Chairmen listed on this form.

ORGANIZATION

The contest will be under the direct supervision of The American Legion Oratorical Committee, appointed by the Department (State) Commander. Final authority on all issues raised shall remain with the Committee.

LOCAL, DISTRICT, AND AREA CONTESTS

Students will compete multiple times. Contests are progressive, will be held during the months of January and February, and completed on or before **February 25, 2023**. The locations of each student's contests are based on where they attend school. The dates and locations vary throughout the state. **CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN FOR DATES AND LOCATIONS OF YOUR CONTESTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

The State is divided into American Legion "Districts and Areas" as follows:

Area A: (Southern AZ) Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5

Area B: (Phoenix Metro and Yuma) Districts 1, 11, 12

Area C: (Northern AZ) - Districts 6, 7, 8

EACH AREA SENDS TWO CONTESTANTS TO THE ARIZONA FINALS.

THE ARIZONA FINALS CONTEST

Will be held on Saturday, **March 11, 2023**. A maximum of two contestants from each "Area" compete in the Finals. The winner of this Contest will compete in the National Finals in Indianapolis, Indiana, **April 21-23, 2023**.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible participants in The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program must be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. All contestants must be bona fide students herein described as any student under the age of twenty (20) years on the date of the National Finals Contest, who is currently enrolled in high school (public, charter, parochial, military, private, or home-schooled) 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 Scholarship Program.

PREPARED ORATION

All contestants shall be required to deliver a PREPARED ORATION, which must be the original effort of each contestant, and must require not less than eight (8) nor more than ten (10) minutes for delivery. It must be delivered in the English language. Singing is NOT allowed. Before the contestant starts their oration, they

will give the title of their Prepared Oration to the Chairman of the Contest.

Quotations must be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than ten words in length, the author's name must be given both orally and in the manuscript. The penalty for plagiarism will be disqualification.

The Prepared Oration must be based on some aspect of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The same Prepared Oration is to be used throughout all levels of the Contests.

ASSIGNED TOPICS FEATURE

All contestants must participate in both the Prepared Oration and the "ASSIGNED TOPIC" feature at all levels of the Contest. The Assigned Topic discourse must consume not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) minutes for delivery. The Prepared Oration quotation rule must be observed.

The purpose of the Assigned Topic feature is to test the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of his/her research, and the ability to discuss with minimal preparation the topic as related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution.

Each contestant speaks on the same topic, which is drawn by the Contest Committee at the Contest. By action of the National Americanism Commission, the Assigned Topics to be used in this year's contest are the following:

2023 ASSIGNED TOPICS

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 or 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.

CONTEST REGULATIONS

DRESS-Business attire is required.

ORDER OF APPEARANCE-Contestants shall draw for the order in which they appear, the drawing to be conducted by the Chairman, who will introduce the speakers as Number 1, 2, etc.

NOTES AND ROSTRUMS-The use of notes, amplification, lectern or speaker's stand by contestants, or prompting in any manner, **is not permitted. Props are not permitted. Singing is not permitted.**

THE PREPARED ORATION AND ASSIGNED TOPICS MUST BE COMMITTED TO MEMORY.

Please visit

azlegion.org/hot-oratorical-program-information/