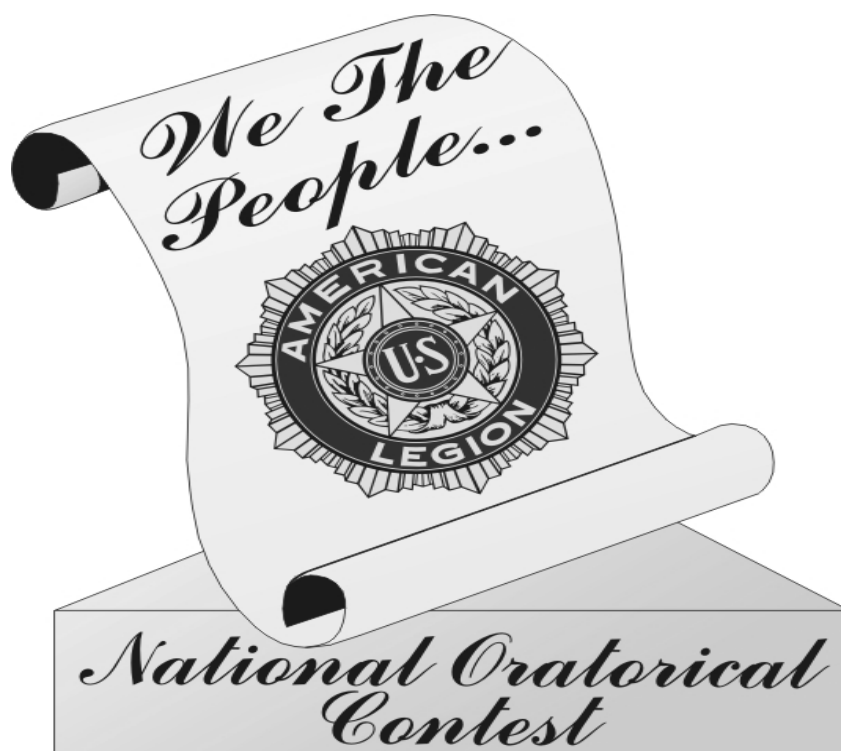


Annual  
The American Legion Department of Iowa  
**High School Oratorical Scholarship Program**  
"A Constitutional Speech Contest"  
2019 – 2020



Open to students in grades 9 – 12

Scholarships are awarded for winners at Department and National levels:

Department Contest Prize*	Placement	National Contest Prize
\$2,000	First	\$18,000
\$1,500	Second	\$16,000
\$1,000	Third	\$14,000

The Department of Iowa champion will also receive an additional \$1,500 for participating in National Quarter-Finals level of competition.

\*Half of each Department of Iowa scholarship is awarded by  
The American Legion of Iowa Foundation.

# Rules and Regulations

## Eligibility

Rules of The American Legion Department of Iowa High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – A Constitutional Speech Contest, conforms to the National rules (available online at [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)) unless exceptions for the contest are stated as outlined below.

All contestants in the Department of Iowa shall be citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States and oration must be in the English language.

The American Legion Department of Iowa High School Oratorical Finals shall consist of one contestant from each of the three Area Contests (an Area consisting of three Districts).

The Area Contest shall consist of one contestant from each district in the designated Area.

The District Contest shall consist of no more than one contestant from each post/county in the district. If there is more than one contestant from each county, there shall be a County Contest to determine the representative from the County who will advance to the District Contest.

## Quotations

Quotations must be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than 10 words in length, the author's name must be given orally and in the manuscript.

## Withdrawals

If for any reason a contestant withdraws, voluntarily or by disqualification, from a contest after progressing through one or more stages, the place shall be taken by the next highest-ranking contestant of the previous contest. If this withdrawal is sudden and the next ranking contestant of the previous contest is available and can proceed without delaying the contest, the substitution should be made at once. If the substitution cannot be made without delay, then the contest shall proceed among the available contestants.

## Judging

If a local contest is necessary to determine the representative of a local high school, these contestants shall be judged according to standards set up by the local Post. In all community contests between two or more high schools to determine contestants to represent local Posts, County, District, Area, and Department Contests, the following rules shall prevail.

## Notes and Platform

Post and County Level Contests. Notes on 3 x 5 cards are allowed. Judges are not to downgrade contestants for the use of notes.

District Level Contest. No prompting, notes and/or lectern will be allowed.

Area and Department Contests. The Area and Department Contest will be conducted in an auditorium having a platform from which contestants will speak. The use of notes, lectern or speaker's stand by contestants, OR PROMPTING IN ANY MANNER, is prohibited. The normal speaking voice of the contestant is not to be interfered with or amplified within the auditorium.

The use of a raised platform at post, county or district is encouraged, if facilities are available.

No research material, just a pad and pencil will be allowed in preparing for the Assigned Topic discourse at the District, Area, and Department levels.

A blind contestant may have a chaperone or escort remain in the room to read the Assigned Topic only.

**The American Legion Department of Iowa  
High School Oratorical Contest  
Certification Form – Section I**

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**To be completed by contestant's High School Official**

This is to certify that Mr./Miss \_\_\_\_\_ is a student  
at \_\_\_\_\_ High School, located in  
\_\_\_\_\_ (city), and is not undergoing post-graduate work, is not deficient  
in any school work for the current year, and will be enrolled for the current school year.

Participant is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

**CURRENT GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s) Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent (s) Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Email Address (Required)**

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**Number of Contestants**

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**Principal's Signature**

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**Please Print Name**

**The American Legion Department of Iowa  
High School Oratorical Contest  
Certification Form – Section II**

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**To be completed by Legion Post Officer and mailed to County Oratorical Chair  
Forward a copy to Department Headquarters**

I, Commander of \_\_\_\_\_ American Legion Post # \_\_\_\_\_,  
of The American Legion Department of Iowa, do hereby certify that the above named student is  
the official contestant of this Post in The American Legion Department of Iowa High School  
Oratorical Contest.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Contestants

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**Post Commander Signature**

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**Post Oratorical Chair Signature**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Section III – Complete this section ONLY if a County run-off is held!  
Completed by County Legion Officer and mailed to District Oratorical Chair  
If there is more than one contestant from each County, there shall be a County Contest to  
determine the representative from the County who will advance to the District Contest.  
Forward a copy to Department Headquarters**

I, Commander of \_\_\_\_\_ County  
of The American Legion Department of Iowa, do hereby certify that the above named contestant  
was declared by the Judges as the winner of this County Contest, and is eligible to represent this  
County in the \_\_\_\_\_ District Contest.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Contestants

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**County Commander Signature**

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**County Oratorical Chair Signature**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Phone & Email**

**The American Legion Department of Iowa  
High School Oratorical Contest  
Certification Form – Section IV**

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**To be completed by District Oratorical Chairman; mailed to Area Oratorical Chairman  
Forward a copy to Department Headquarters**

I, Commander of the \_\_\_\_\_ District of The American Legion Department of Iowa, do hereby certify that the above named student is the official contestant of this District and is eligible to represent the Area \_\_\_\_ Contest of The American Legion Department of Iowa High School Oratorical Contest.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Contestants

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**District Commander Signature**

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**District Oratorical Chair Signature**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Section V - Completed by Area Oratorical Chairman and Forwarded to Department Headquarters**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Area #\_\_\_\_, of The American Legion Department of Iowa High School Oratorical Contest, do hereby certify that the above named student is the official contestant and is eligible to represent this Area in the Department Finals.

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**Area Oratorical Chairman Signature**

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**Tabulator Chairman Signature**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Section VI - Completed by Department Chairman**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Department Chairman of The Department of Iowa American Legion High School Oratorical Contest, do hereby certify that the above named contestant was declared by the Judges as the winner of this Department Contest, and is eligible to represent this Department in the National Quarter Finals Contest.

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**Department Chairman Signature**

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**Tabulator Chairman Signature**

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**Phone & Email**

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**Phone & Email**

## DATES FOR THE CONTEST

- Local Contests** Must be completed by December 8, 2019
- County Contests** Must be completed by January 5, 2020
- District Contests** Must be completed by January 19, 2020  
(Contest Info will be available online: [www.ialegion.org/oratorical](http://www.ialegion.org/oratorical))
- Area Contests** Must be completed by February 2, 2020

### AREA CONTEST – Bold Indicates Host District      DATE – LOCATION - TIME

AREA I – Districts 1, 5 & 6      TBD

AREA II – Districts 2, 3 & 4      TBD

AREA III – Districts 7, 8 & 9      TBD

### Department Finals: Sunday, February 16, 2020, Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines

The American Legion Department of Iowa High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – A Constitutional Contest, will be held Sunday, February 16, 2020, at the Airport Holiday Inn on Fleur Drive in Des Moines, at 8 a.m. The Department winner will advance to the National Quarter Final Contest in Indianapolis, Indiana.

### 2020 National Contest

The 2020 National American Legion Oratorical Contests will be April 17-19, 2020, in Indianapolis, at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241. Quarter-final and semi-final contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

### AWARDS/FINANCES

The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – A Constitutional Speech Contest is financed by Department of Iowa American Legion, The American Legion of Iowa Foundation, and various American Legion Post, County, and District organizations. Post, county and district awards are the responsibility of the host for their level. Each participant who appears in an Area Contest will receive \$50 from the Department of Iowa for expenses only.

District champions eliminated in the Area Contests will receive a scholarship prize of \$200 and any restrictions placed on the scholarships awarded in the Department finals are placed equally on these scholarships.

Each Area winner who participates in the Department Oratorical Contest will receive \$100 from the Department of Iowa American Legion for expenses only.

For more information, contact: The American Legion of Iowa, 720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309 1-800-365-8387; E-mail [programs@ialegion.org](mailto:programs@ialegion.org) or go to [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org).

**The American Legion Department of Iowa  
Oratorical Committee  
2019 - 2020**

**Frank Andrew, Jr., Department Chairman**  
P.O. Box 24, Maxwell, Iowa 50161  
(515) 240-5692 or fmandrew@midiowa.net

**Pete Madsen, Department Vice Chairman**  
612 Keil St., Holstein, Iowa 51025  
(712) 221-8801 or madsen.pete@yahoo.com

**First District Chairman**

Richard Stoltenberg  
21450 30<sup>th</sup> Ave., Stockton, IA 52769  
(563) 284-6075 or rstoltenberg47@gmail.com

**Second District Chairman**

Ronald Tyne  
2115 A Ave., Marion, IA 52302  
(319) 431-4152 or r\_j\_tyne@msn.com

**Third District Chairman**

Marvin Behrens  
1802 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Apt. 309, Waverly, IA 50677  
(319) 269-7324 or marvbehrens@hotmail.com

**Fourth District Chairman**

Dennis Soppe  
12228 Lynx Rd., West Union, IA 52175  
(563) 422-5092 or soppedj@hotmail.com

**Fifth District Chairman**

Floyd Proctor  
33214 415<sup>th</sup> St., Unionville, IA 52594  
(641) 938-2706 or fproct1@yahoo.com

**Sixth District Chairman**

Donald Swan  
12327 Sunflower Dr., Urbandale, IA 50323  
(515) 278-4416 or swandonald@msn.com

**Seventh District Chairman**

Joseph Jardon  
2747 Dogwood Ave., Red Oak, IA 51566  
(712) 370-6071 or jmmfjardon@hotmail.com

**Eighth District Chairman**

Marvin Carr  
1320 Prospect St., Webster City, IA 50595  
(515) 835-9703 or marvin.carr5@gmail.com

**Ninth District Chairman**

James Kessler  
PO Box 624, Lake Park, IA 51347  
(712) 832-3540 or kesslerb@mehsi.com

**The American Legion of Iowa, 720 Lyon St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
Office: (515) 282-5068 or (800) 365-8387  
Fax: (515) 282-7583  
Email: [programs@ialegion.org](mailto:programs@ialegion.org)**

**Information is also available online at: [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)**

## **Assigned Topics for 2020 Oratorical Contest**

### Amendment XII – Electoral College

Amendment XXIV – Citizens right to vote shall not be denied by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.

Amendment XXVII – No law, varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

Amendment XX – terms of President and Vice President. When Congress shall assemble. Articles of Presidential succession.

### **More Information**

#### **Amendment XII**

The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate; — The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted; — The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. — The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

#### **Amendment XX**

Section. 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section. 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section. 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen



before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section. 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section. 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section. 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

#### **Amendment XXIV**

Section. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

#### **Amendment XXVII**

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.