

Forest Lake American Legion

2024 National Oratorical Speech Contest

Entry Form

Sponsored by: The American Legion Post 225 &

Sons of the American Legion

355 W. Broadway Ave, Forest Lake, MN 55025

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Age: Grade(9-12th): School (incl. homeschool):

This **Entry Form** is **Due December 20th**. By January 8th, 2024, contestants will submit a **Video** (or a link such as YouTube) recorded full body as if you are on a stage platform presenting your original prepared speech on some aspects of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. This prepared oration length should be no less than eight (8) minutes and no more than ten (10) minutes. We will judge the Video entries and notify our top two contestants to also prepare short 3 to 5 minute memorized speeches on the 4 assigned topics (see the reverse side of this form). They will then compete in person to determine our first and second place winners.

Our First Place Cash Award: \$1,000, Second Place: \$600, Third Place: \$200, Participation: Fourth to Tenth Places are \$50.

Our top winner will represent us and compete for more cash prizes at each level including the **District's live** competition on February 10th. The District winner goes on to State February 24th and that winner on to Nationals May 17-19th. Details about how the contest is run are at: www.legion.org select "Programs" and then "Family and Youth," "Oratorical Contest".

For local details and copies of this entry form, go to www.post225.com click on the scrolling "Oratorical Contest" under the center pictures, and/or call Ron Miller (651) 464-5549, or email ron2@miltech.org.

All contestants must be citizens of, or lawful permanent residents of the USA, and live or go to school in the Forest Lake area.

ENTRY FORM Due Dec 20th. ORATORICAL VIDEO MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JANUARY 8th to: Ron Miller email: ron2@miltech.org

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Your Prepared Oration (8-10min) is the same every year. So if you enter this year you can use it again next year. It must be on some aspects of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. In the Prepared Oration, as well as in the Assigned Topic short speeches, quotations must be indicated as such. Singing is not permitted, however you may quote a verse and provide proper attribution.

The Assigned Topic Discourse is only for our local top two contestants and for all at the district and higher competitions. It is a 3 to 5 minute presentation on each of the **four** topics which change each year and are summarized below. The purpose is to show the speaker's knowledge of the subject, and the ability to discuss the topic as related to the basic principles of government under our Constitution of the US.

Assigned Topics for 2024 Oratorical Contest

Amendment II – A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment XXIII – The District (of Columbia) constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District (of Columbia) would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the State, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Amendment XXV, Section 3 – Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Amendment V – No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, not be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.