

American Legion Oratorical Contest

Do you have a student that excels in public speaking, and is seeking ways to earn scholarship funds to attend college?

If yes, the American Legion Oratorical Contest may be an exciting opportunity for them.

Our Springfield American Legion Post #258 will host an Oratorical Contest either on January 27, 2019 or February 3, 2019, the exact date has not yet been determined.

The winner of that contest will compete in the American Legion District 6 Contest on February 17, 2019. Then the winner of the District Contest will participate in the State American Legion Contest being held at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana sometime in March 2019. Finally the winner of the state contest will go to Indianapolis, Indiana to participate in the National Contest.

Contest purpose

The contest was developed primarily to instill a better knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States in high school students. Other objectives include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Another purpose of the program is to assist students in paying the high cost of a college education. The first place winner takes home \$18,000 and the next two finishers receive \$16,000 and \$14,000.

The Louisiana State Champion and a chaperon will represent Louisiana in the **2019 National Contest** in Indianapolis, Indiana with all expenses paid. Each Department (State) winner who is certified and participates in the first round of the National Contest will receive **\$1500**. Each student chosen to participate in the second round, but does not advance to the finals, will receive an additional **\$1500** scholarship to pursue education beyond high school. Additional scholarship monies will be presented to the top three finalists in the National Contest as follows:

1st ---**\$18,000**; 2nd ---**\$16,000**; 3rd ---**\$14,000**.

Information about the contest and the rules can be accessed at:

www.legion.org/publications/242918/oratorical-contest-rules

If you have anyone interested in participating in this event, or if you have any questions, please contact Charles Martin, American Legion Post #258, Oratorical Chairperson,

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