

YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

The Youth Oratorical Contest is designed to introduce youth to the concepts of leadership. It will assist them in becoming aware of their personal traits that they will need to develop to become the type of leader they would like to have. When developing the oration, consider the following key factors:

1. Leaders are not only the people making headlines in the national news. They are people who are trying to work with other people to make a difference.
2. If youth want to make a difference, they need to learn about leadership skills.
3. The youth will study leaders in history and in their community and identify the characteristics that these leaders have which make them a good leader.

CONTEST RULES

1. Contestants shall prepare orations not less than four minutes but no more than six minutes and must speak on the topic.
2. The penalty for going over or under the time limit is, "three (3) points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit."
3. Timing begins on the first word uttered and stops on the last word. Penalty system is in place for those who go over or under the time limit—three points for each 15 seconds over or under the time limit.
4. Contestants shall not state their names or any other identifying data during their oration (i.e., name of school, city, state, or sponsoring chapter). The penalty for stating identifying data is two (2) points.
5. Birth certificate and two (2) typed copies of the presentation "MUST" be presented to the Regional and National Competition Chairs prior to the competition.
6. Any quotations or copyright material used in the speech must be identified properly.
7. Blacks In Government shall have the right to edit, publish, and record any oration entered into competition without payment to the author.
8. Contestants draw numbers for order of presentation.
9. No one is allowed to enter or leave the room during an oration.

10. A minimum of one minute of silence is granted to judges after an oration.
11. No pictures or other activities are allowed during an oration other than the official BIG photographer and/or videographer.
12. Protest must be made before the final scoring. The competition chair shall have the final ruling on all protests.

SCORING

Scoring procedures at all levels of the competition will be identical and will conform to the following point system.

TOTAL POINTS

1. Delivery 25 Points

- Articulation 10 points
- Vocal Variety 10 points
- Gestures 5 points

2. Effectiveness 30 Points

- Clear Purpose (15 points)
- Ability to Sell Your Position (15 points)

3. Content 35 Points

- Referenced Facts (20 points)
- Material's Substance (15 points)

4. Appearance 10 Points

- Professional Attire (5 points)
- Grooming (5 points)

GRAND TOTAL = 100 points