

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
1708 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23230
October 10, 2016

Greetings from the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest.

Each year the American Legion sponsors its National High School Oratorical Contest. This contest provides your students an excellent opportunity to improve their research, writing and oration skills plus gain a greater appreciation for one of our country's cornerstone documents, the United State Constitution. This is a national competition with the top national orator receiving an \$18,000 scholarship for college.

I encourage you to visit www.legion.org for contest rules and requirements for academic year 2016-17. I ask please that you assign a teacher to work with interested students. Your encouragement and assistance at the school level will help ensure their successful participation.

A member of your local American Legion post should contact you soon with details pertaining to the contest in your area. If you are not contacted by the end of November, let me know and I will put you in touch with a contest official in your area.

Local contests are conducted in December or January. Top orators advance to district and regional competitions with the very best orator advancing to the state (department) contest in March 2017. In addition to awards and scholarships earned at lower levels, scholarship prizes at the state level are \$1,100 for first place and \$600 for students placing second or third.

Specific information about High School Oratorical Contest can be found online at www.legion.org/oratorical. At the website, students may also view the performances of last year's national competitors and see for themselves what is required of each competitor.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email at vaoratorical@yahoo.com or call me at (757) 477-7904.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthwhile program.

For God and Country,

Legionnaire Greg Mueller
Oratorical Chairman
American Legion Department of Virginia