



The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. National Baptist Congress of Christian Education

2018 ORATORICAL CONTEST GUIDELINES

2018 Theme:

“Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as we LEAD Disciples for Christ”

Proverbs 29:18; Matthew 10:1; Romans 12:4; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Corinthians 12:7

**All scriptures do not need to be incorporated within the oration. Please choose one that best suits your oration's goals.*

We recommend all contestants and coordinators **read this document in its entirety** to grasp a clear understanding of the rules and guidelines for the national oratorical contest. The Judges' scoring sheet that is used during the competition is included in these guidelines.

PURPOSE

To provide training and communication skills with public speaking experience, within the context of the scriptural theme. Afford each contestant, an opportunity to earn a college scholarship. This is accomplished through completion of all required guidelines, supported by intellectual thinking, and having a positive expression of an original written and oral presentation of the chosen theme. The goal of the scholarship award is for students to receive financial assistance with tuition, books and/or housing at a higher education institution.

COMPETITION DETAILS

Contestants are students currently enrolled in his or her senior year of high school and will be graduating prior to August 2018, with the expressed intent of continuing their education in a college or university, also known as a higher education institution.

The contestants will participate in a multiple-step process:

1. Compete in their church's Oratorical Contest
2. Compete in their local District Association Oratorical Contest
3. Compete in their State Convention's Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest (the National Commission does not require that the contest is held during the State Convention; that is the decision of the individual State)
4. Compete at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest, as a delegate of a church registered for the 2018 Annual Congress Session.



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The contestants chosen after their State competition will have all the required documentation submitted by the State Congress President, State Youth Director, or State Director of Oratorical, by Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at the close of business day; and in turn those contestants submitting all the required documentation, in the proper format and within the assigned time frame; will be accepted to compete at the National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The person responsible for submitting the documentation will receive an electronic notification of acceptance by Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

The Oratorical Contest will be held during the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Annual Session on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 in Oklahoma City, OK at 1 o'clock PM.

The contestant chosen at the State level to compete in the National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest may be sponsored by either his or her local church, the District or the State Convention. The sponsoring entity will work directly with the contestant in preparation for the national competition. **It is imperative that the contestant's travel arrangements accommodate his/or her commitment to present the winning oration at the Children/Youth Rally, held on Friday, June 22, 2018.**

There will be a panel of individuals chosen from across the country, to judge the competition. These individuals will commit to attending tele- conference training and an onsite orientation to the Oratorical process. Please keep in mind, our goal is to provide fair and impartial decisions for all the participants in this process, and therefore, regardless of your opinion, the decisions of the judges are final.

There will be a first (\$5,000) second (\$1,500) and third (\$1,000) place winner announced at the end of the competition. All participants will receive a monetary award. The first place contestant will receive their award in two parts. The first, second and third place winners will receive their awards through the mail and all other contestants will receive their participation awards upon completion of the oratorical contest. All contestants must present with their social security card or know the number which may be required for the completion of the W9 tax form. The Contestants that place in the top three, will meet with the Oratorical Coordinator or designee immediately following the contest to complete all required documents and to receive instructions related to their placement in the contest.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SPEECH

The speech must be original and prepared by the contestant.

The speech must be typewritten, saved and submitted in a WORD DOCUMENT FORMAT, (Times New Roman 12 font), double-spaced, a minimum of 600 words and a maximum of 800 words, using Standard English.

The speech must be logical, correct in form and content, relevant, and address the established theme.

The speech must clearly document all references or copyrighted material cited in the oration. All supporting documentation must be neatly printed, complete and accurate.



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The contestant's oration and supporting documentation, i.e., (contestant cover sheet, documentation submission form, electronic photo and the student's most recent report card) must be received from the State Congress President, the State Youth Director, or the State Director of the Oratorical Contest by the close of business day, Wednesday, May 9, 2018 via electronic version (email) and six paper copies of the Oration, the documentation submission form and the contestant cover sheet, are to be sent via postal submission to the Oratorical Coordinator.

The **email submission** should include the following:

- In the subject line should be "Oratorical App" and the contestant's name
(*example: "Oratorical App: John Smith"*)
- Contestant Cover Sheet
- Documentation Submission Form
- Contestant's last report card
- Contestants typed Oration
(*no identifying information should be on this document and it must be sent in **Word format***)
- Presentable electronic photo of contestant. Please, no copies of ID cards. This photo will be submitted for the website posting)

The **postal submission** should include the following:

- 1 Contestant Cover Sheet
- 1 Documentation Submission Form
- 6 Typed written copies of the Oration (*no identifying information should be on this document*)

***Submissions are required in both formats (electronic and postal)**

Send to: BerThaddaeus M. Bailey, Oratorical Coordinator
National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest
1827 S. Nogales Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74107-1835
C: (918) 206-6852 (Should only be used in emergency cases, please use email first)
E: nbcoratorical@gmail.com

SPEECH PRESENTATION (ORATION)

The Contestant must arrive at 12N and may have a reference copy of their speech in the holding area, prior to the start of the contest.

Contestants that place in the top three must meet with the Oratorical Coordinator, immediately following the contest, to complete a ll required documentation. At this time, they will need their social security number for competition of the W9 tax form. The winner will be given instructions regarding their attendance at the Children/Youth Rally (Friday, June 22, 2018) where they will be introduced and will recite the winning oration.



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- The Contestants are to stand, approach the podium, state the theme and begin their memorized rendition of the written oration, within the frame of the podium (without moving across the stage).
- Contestants are not allowed to use introductions or reference protocols.
- The Contestant's oratorical presentation must avoid speaking in sermonic tones, using testimonials, and excessive gesturing.
- The Contestants are not allowed to use special props, costumes, clothing or prompts.

ATTIRE

The Contestant's presentation attire is as follows:

- Males: Slacks, Suit Coats and Shirts with Tie
- Females: Business Dresses or Suits with Hosiery (please note the contestants may be on an elevated platform facing the audience).

JUDGES

The Judges are selected prior to the NBC Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest. Each judge receives the guidelines and judges score sheet during the judges training sessions. Each judge is scheduled to attend a training teleconference prior to the Congress session and will attend a final onsite review for participation and protocol. Each judge has attested to providing a fair and impartial scoring of each contestant.

The Judges will use the following criteria for each oration: composition, subject matter, content originality, delivery, vocal control, enunciation, pronunciation, presentation and mastery of material. **The oration must be memorized.**

The Judges will give each contestant an intangible score (*is most commonly used to describe things that are recognized but not easily quantified*) and in the "event of a tie" the contestant that has the highest intangible score will be the winning contestant.

REGARDLESS OF YOUR OPINION, THE JUDGES' OVERALL DECISION IS FINAL.



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Oratorical Contest 2018

CONTESTANT COVER SHEET

Information must be received by close of business day on Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ H _____ C _____

Email: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

Church: _____ Pastor: _____

Church's 2018 NBC Congress of Christian Education receipt # _____

If the church has not registered prior to submission of the paperwork, the contestant must present on the day of the Oratorical Contest with a copy of the registration receipt that has the contestants name on it.

State Convention: _____

Convention President: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Congress President: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

State Youth Director: _____ Telephone _____

Signature: _____

State Oratorical Director: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____



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Location of Local Contest: _____ **Date:** _____

Date Contestant anticipates graduating from high school: _____

College or University Contestant plans to attend: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Website address: _____

Date classes start: _____

Field of Study: _____

Has Contestant received official notice of acceptance: _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

State Youth Directors, State Convention President or Congress Presidents are asked to verify the accuracy of all information by signing beneath their name. Please assure that all information is legible.



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ORATORICAL CONTEST DOCUMENTATION
SUBMISSION FORM ~2018

*Name and Contact information of Person submitting the Contestant Information to the
National Oratorical Coordinator, by the close of business day on Wednesday, May 9, 2018*

(Please print all information legibly)

Name of person submitting information _____

Address: _____

City: _____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ *H*(_____) _____ *C*

Email Address: _____

Name of Contestant You Represent: _____

Name of State Convention: _____

Has the Contestant's Church registered for Congress 2018 _____ *Yes* _____ *No*

Will you attend the 2018 National Baptist Congress: _____ *Yes* _____ *No*

Who will accompany the contestant to the Oratorical Contest?

Name: _____ (_____) _____ *C*

Date scheduled to arrive at Congress: _____

Hotel Accommodations: _____

Departure date: _____

**The winning contestant must be available to be acknowledged at the President's Address on Thursday and available to present the winning oration on Friday at the 2018 Children/Youth Rally.*



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NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET-2018

Contestant # _____

Intangible Score _____

EFFECTIVENESS	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Content						
Composition						
Clear Purpose						
SUBJECT MATTER	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Introduction/Closing						
Originality						
DELIVERY	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Memorization						
Enunciation/ Pronunciation						
Vocal Control						
Eye Contact						
DECORUM/ATTIRE	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Poise/Limited Gestures/Attire						
Grand Total						

Judge's Name

Judge's Signature

Each judge must sign his/her individual score sheet and submit the same to the competition coordinator or designee at the conclusion of each contestant's speech. Each contestant must receive a score for each category and an intangible score.



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Explanation of Judge's Scoring Sheet

Scoring Categories

Contestant will be judged based on the subject matters listed below.

A brief description of each subject matter has been included. Please note that the information provided is only a guide and may not cover all areas under the judges' consideration. *

Content:

Scriptural References
Clarity of Purpose
Ideas
Logic
Adherence to Baptist Doctrine Diction

Composition:

Structure
Organization
Support Material

Introduction/Closing:

Effective
Memorable
Summarization of Key Points
Thought provoking
Engaging & Relevant ~ (Use of anecdote, poem, question, challenge, or charge, etc. that is relevant to topic.)

Originality:

Original Thought
Informative & Thought Provoking

Delivery: Memorization

Enunciation/Pronunciation/Articulation
Vocal Control
Eye Contact

Decorum/Attire

Attire (Young Ladies-no pants; Young Men-suit and tie; adornment/accessories that do not distract delivery or reception of speech)
Posture/Poise
Limited Gestures
Body Language

**The information provided is only a guide and may be subject to change without notice. Also, the judges score sheets are only made available at the discretion of the Oratorical Coordinator.*