

*The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*

*Oratorical Committee is pleased to announce the*

## **2013 ORATORICAL THEME**

# **A SOLID WITNESS FOR A SOLID SAVIOR**

*“Joshua said to all of the people, ‘Behold, this stone will be a witness for it has heard all of the words of the Lord, which he spoke to us. It will be a witness to testify, so that you do not deny your God.’” – Joshua 24:27*

**MEET US IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**  
**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

DR. GEORGE W. WADDLES, CONGRESS PRESIDENT ~ DR. ELLIOTT CUFF, DEAN ~ DR. DORETHA JOHNSON, GENERAL SECRETARY

*National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*  
**ORATORICAL CONTEST**  
**2013~GUIDELINES**

The official theme:

**“A Solid Witness for a Solid Savior”**

*And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God!*

*Joshua 24:27 KJV*

We recommend that all contestants and coordinators have a clear understanding of the National rules and guidelines for the Oratorical Contest, which would also include the guidelines used by the judges for scoring.

**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.

**Competition**

The Oratorical Contest will be held during the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Annual Session, on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Contestants are students currently enrolled in his or her senior year of high school and will be graduating prior to September, 2013, with the expressed intent of continuing their education in a college or university setting.

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
4. Compete at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest

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, which must be received by Wednesday, May 8, 2013 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 St. Louis MO and will receive an electronic notification of acceptance by Friday, May 17, 2013.

The contestant chosen at the State level to compete in the National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest will be sponsored by 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 21, 2013.

There will be a panel of individuals chosen from across the country, including the local community to judge the competition. These individuals will commit to attending a 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 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 \$1500 will go directly to the contestant and the balance of \$3500 will be sent to the University or College the contestant will attend in the fall. The second and third place winners will receive their awards by the end of the Congress week and all other contestants will receive their 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 a W9 tax form.

### **Organization of the Speech/Essay**

The speech must be original and prepared by the contestant.

The speech must be typewritten and saved in a **WORD DOCUMENT FORMAT**, (12 font-Times New Roman 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 to the theme, 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.

The contestant's written oration and supporting documentation (contestant cover sheet, documentation submission form 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 8, 2013 via one electronic version (email) and six paper copies of the Oration to be sent to the Oratorical Coordinator

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

- Contestants name in the subject line
- Contestant Cover Sheet
- Documentation Submission Form
- Contestant's last report card
- Contestants written Oration  
(*no identifying information should be on this document*)
- Electronic photo of contestant

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

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

Send to: Roslyn L. Harvey, Oratorical Coordinator  
National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest  
5527 S. Cornell Ave Unit #1  
Chicago, Illinois 60637-1914  
773-490-7628 mobile  
[nbcoratorical@gmail.com](mailto:nbcoratorical@gmail.com)

### **Speech Presentation (Oration)**

The Contestant must arrive **at least one and 1/2 hours prior** to the start time of the Oratorical Contest. The contestants may have a reference copy of their speech in the holding room prior to the start of the contest.

The Contestant that places 1<sup>st</sup> must be available to attend the Congress President's Address (Thursday, June 20, 2013) to be acknowledged as the winner and to attend the Children/Youth Rally (Friday, June 21, 2013) and recite the winning oration.

The Contestant's presentation attire is Males: Slacks, Suit Coats and Shirts with Ties and Females: Dresses or Suits with Hosiery

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).

The Contestants are not allowed to use introductions or reference protocols

The Contestants are not allowed to state their names or any other identifying information during the oratorical presentation.

The Contestant's oratorical presentation must avoid speaking in sermonic tones, using testimonials, and excessive gesturing.

The Contestant is not allowed to use special props, costumes, clothing or prompts.

### **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.

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.

**The Judges overall decision is final.**

*National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*

*Oratorical Contest 2013*

**CONTESTANT COVER SHEET**

*Information must be received by close of business day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2013*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of State

Convention: \_\_\_\_\_

Convention President: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

Congress

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

State Youth

Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

State Oratorical Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Local Contest: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Contestant anticipates graduating from high school: \_\_\_\_\_

**College or University you plan to attend:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you received official notice of acceptance:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Website address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date classes start:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Field of Study:** \_\_\_\_\_

*State Youth Directors or State Convention or Congress Presidents are asked to verify the accuracy of all information by signing beneath their name. All information must be legible.*

***National Baptist Congress of Christian Education  
ORATORICAL CONTEST  
DOCUMENTATION SUBMISSION FORM ~2013***

*Name and Contact information of Person submitting the Contestant Information*

*(Please print all information legibly)*

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*City:* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip* \_\_\_\_\_

*Telephone:* (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ *H*(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ *C*

*Email Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Contestant You Represent:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of State Convention:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Will you attend the 2013 National Baptist Congress:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Yes* \_\_\_\_\_ *No*

*If no, who will accompany the contestant:*

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ *C*

*Date scheduled to arrive at Congress:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Departure date:* \_\_\_\_\_

*\*winning contestant must be available to present the winning oration at the children/youth rally*

*Hotel Accommodations:* \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET-2013**

Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_

Intangible Score \_\_\_\_\_

<b>EFFECTIVENESS</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Content						
Composition						
Clear Purpose						
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Introduction/Closing						
Originality						
<b>DELIVERY</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Memorization						
Enunciation/ Pronunciation						
Vocal Control						
Eye Contact						
<b>DECORUM/ATTIRE</b>	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 (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature

Each contestant must receive a score for each category.

**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. The Oratorical Commission will tally the scores.**

# 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

Limited Gestures

Body Language

*\*The information provided is only a guide and may be subject to change without notice.*