

**TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSIONARY AND EDUCATIONAL  
CONVENTION, INC.**

# **2017 ORATORICAL CONTEST**

## **The Official Theme:**

***“Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as  
We Equip Disciples for Christ”***

*Proverbs 29:18; John 16:13; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:12-13; Timothy 3:16-17*

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

**(600-800 Word Essay)**

### **“2017 High School Seniors”**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner: \$1,500.00**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner \$700.00**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner: \$500.00**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

***Mrs. Georgia W. Torrance***

***Oratorical Commission***

***Phone: 901-210-6831***

***Email: [gtorrancetbmec@yahoo.com](mailto:gtorrancetbmec@yahoo.com)***

# TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSIONARY AND EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION, INC.

Dr. Joe Maddox  
Convention President

Rev. Elmore Tolbert  
Congress President

## ORATORICAL CONTEST 2017~GUIDELINES

### The official theme:

### ***“Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as We Equip Disciples for Christ”***

***Proverbs 29:18; John 16:13; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:12-13; Timothy 3:16-17***

#### **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 State Oratorical Contest will be held Saturday, April 29, 2017 12:00 NOON at American Baptist College in Nashville, TN. Contestants are students currently enrolled in his or her senior year of high school and will be graduating prior to August 2017, 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. **To compete in the State Convention's Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest**  
**THE CONTESTANT'S CHURCH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION MUST BE REGISTERED AND ALL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS MUST BE MET PRIOR TO CONTESTANT'S DOCUMENTS BEING FORWARD TO THE STATE ORATORICAL COMMISSION. THE DISBURSEMENTS OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS WILL BE IN NOVEMBER OF 2017.**
4. **The Winner of the TBMEC State Competition will compete at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest in St. Louis, MO. As a delegate, the contestant's church MUST BE REGISTERED with the State Convention and the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.**

The contestants chosen after their District Association competition MUST have all the required documentation submitted by the District's Youth Director (or) The District's Oratorical Contest Director. All required documents must be received by Friday, April 21, 2017 close of business day. Contestants

submitting all the required documentation in the proper format and within the assigned time frame will be accepted to compete at the State Oratorical Contest in Nashville, TN. The person responsible for submitting the documentation will receive an electronic notification of acceptance by Monday April 24, 2017.

The contestant chosen at the District level will be sponsored by their local church and/or District Association to compete in the State Competition. 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 and/or the District they represent. 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 23, 2017, in St. Louis MO.

There will be a panel of individuals chosen from across the state, including the local community, to judge the competition. Please keep in mind our goal is to provide fair and impartial decisions for all the participants in this process, therefore, the decisions of the judges are final.

There will be a first (\$1,500.00), second (\$700.00), and third (\$500.00) place winner announced at the end of the competition. Scholarships will go directly to the contestants. All contestants must present their social security card or know the number which will be required for the completion of a W9 tax form prior to disbursement of the Scholarship.

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

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 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 oration and supporting documentation, (contestant cover sheet, documentation submission form, electronic photo and the student's most recent report card) must be received from the District's Congress President, the District's Youth Director, or the District's Director of the Oratorical Contest by the close of business day, Friday, April 21, 2017 via email. 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:

- 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 and it must be sent in Word format)**

- 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)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

***Mrs. Georgia W. Torrance @ 901-210-6831 or email: gtorrancetbmec@yahoo.com***

**ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY:  
FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017 BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS.**

**Send to:**

***Mrs. Georgia W. Torrance***

***Oratorical Coordinator***

***Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, INC.***

***P. O. Box 111322***

***Memphis, TN 38111***

***901-210-6831 Mobile***

***gtorrancetbmec@yahoo.com***

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

The Contestant must arrive **at least one hour 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's presentation attire:**

- ▯ **Males:** Slacks, Suit Coats and Shirts with Ties
- ▯ **Females:** Dresses or Suits with Hosiery (please note the contestants may be on an elevated platform facing the audience).
- ▯ 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 Contestants are not allowed to use special props, costumes, clothing or prompts.

TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSIONARY AND EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION, INC.  
Oratorical Contest 2017

**CONTESTANT COVER SHEET**

*Information must be received by close of business day on Friday, April 21, 2017*

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

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

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

District's 2017 TBMEC receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

District Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Moderator: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

District Youth Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

District Oratorical Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**

*District Youth Director/Oratorical Coordinator, or Congress President is asked to verify the accuracy of all information by signing beneath their name. Please assure that all information is legible.*

TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSIONARY AND EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION, INC

ORATORICAL CONTEST

**DOCUMENTATION SUBMISSION FORM ~2017**

Name and Contact information of Person submitting the Contestant Information to the **Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc. Oratorical Coordinator** by the close of business day on **Friday, April 21, 2017** (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 District Association:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is the Contestant's Church registered with the TBMEC** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

**Who will accompany the contestant to the State Oratorical Contest in Nashville, TN?**

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

**\*The winning contestant must be available to attend the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, June 19-23, 2017 in St. Louis, MO.**

## TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSIONARY AND EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION, INC.

### Judges

The Judges are selected prior to the TBMEC Oratorical Contest. Each judge receives the guidelines and judges score sheet during the judges training sessions. Each judge has attested to providing 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 (*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.**

### JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET-2017 (SAMPLE SCORE SHEET/NBC)

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

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

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

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### Grand Total

Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_ 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.*



## 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, 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