

**The Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc.
Congress of Christian Education**

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox
Convention President

Bishop Umiko D. Jones Sr.
Congress President

Mrs. Georgia Torrance
State Oratorical Coordinator

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2019 ORATORICAL CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

The 2019 Oratorical Theme is: "Envisioning the Future Exceptionally as we Send Disciples for Christ" Scriptures: Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 16: 15-16; Luke 24: 46-47; John 20:21. *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 2019, 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 at the TBMEC Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest, as a delegate of a church registered for the 2018-2019 Calendar Year.
4. The WINNER of The TBMEC Oratorical Contest will then compete in the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest to be held in Baltimore, Maryland, June 16-20, 2019.

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The contestants chosen after their District Association's competition will have all the required documentation submitted by the Director of Oratorical for their District Association, by Monday April 8, 2019 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 Tennessee Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc. State Contest. **The person responsible for submitting the documentation will receive an electronic notification of acceptance by Tuesday, April 9, 2019.**

The Oratorical Contest will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Sylvan Street Baptist Church, 326 Arrington Street, Nashville, TN 37207. The Contest will begin promptly at 12 NOON. **Contestants must be present by 11:00 a.m.**

The contestant chosen at the District level to compete in the TBMEC Oratorical Contest may be sponsored by either his or her local church or their District Association. The sponsoring entity will work directly with the contestant in preparation for the State Competition.

There will be a panel of individuals chosen from across State to judge the competition. 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 (\$1,500) second (\$700) and third (\$500) place winner announced at the end of the competition. All winners will receive their award following the TBMEC Annual Session in October 2019. 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.

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.

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 District's Director of the Oratorical Contest by the close of business day, Monday, April 8, 2019 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.

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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).

<p>Send to:</p> <p>Mrs. Georgia Torrance State Oratorical Contest P. O. Box 1618 Millington, TN 38083</p> <p>Phone: 901-210-6831 Email: gtorrancetbmec@yahoo.com</p>
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SPEECH PRESENTATION: ORATION

The Contestant must arrive at: Sylvan Street Missionary Baptist Church, 326 Arrington Street, Nashville, TN 37207 by 11:00 a.m. The Contestant may have a reference copy of their speech in the holding area, prior to the start of the contest. **The Contest will begin promptly at 12:00 NOON.** Contestants that place in the top three must meet with the Oratorical Coordinator, immediately following the contest, to complete all required documentation. At this time, they will need their social security number for completion of the W9 tax form. The winner will be given instructions regarding their attendance at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education (June 16-21, 2019) in Baltimore, Maryland.

- 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.

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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 Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention's 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 State Competition 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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CONTESTANT COVER SHEET

Information must be received by close of business day on Monday, April 8, 2019

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ (H) _____ (C)

Email: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian: _____

Church: _____ Pastor: _____

Church's 2018-19 TBMEC receipt # _____ District Association's receipt #: _____

*****Church and District Association must be registered prior to submission from Contestant*****

District Association's Moderator: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

District Congress President: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature _____

District's Oratorical Director: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Location of Local Contest: _____ Date _____

Date Contestant anticipates graduating from high school: _____

College or University Contestant plans to attend: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Website: _____

Date classes start: _____ Field of Study: _____

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

**District's Oratorical Director has verified the accuracy of all information,
prior to submission to the State Oratorical Director.**

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**ORATORICAL CONTEST DOCUMENTATION
SUBMISSION FORM ~2019**

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 Monday, April 8, 2019.

(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: _____

Name of State Convention: _____

Has the Contestant's Church registered in TBMEC 2019: _____ Yes _____ No

Will you attend the TBMEC 2019 Oratorical Contest? _____ Yes _____ No

Who will accompany the contestant to the State Contest?

Name: _____ (____) _____ C

Contestant must be present by 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 13, 2019.

Location:

***Sylvan Street Missionary Baptist Church
326 Arrington Street
Nashville, TN 37207***

Oratorical Contest will start promptly at: 12 Noon.

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JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET-2019

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

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

(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.**