



Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education

Dr. Addis Moore, Congress President

Mission: Equipping Church Leaders for Effective Ministry

ORATORICAL CONTEST GUIDELINES ~ 2012

The Official Theme:

“Building a Solid Life with the Savior”

*For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.
1 Corinthians 3:9 NKJV*

The Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education’s Oratorical Contest lines up with that of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. Therefore, much of the information found in this document is duplicated from our National and can be found at the following address: <http://www.nationalbaptist.com/departments/congress/oratorical-contest.html>.

We recommend that all contestants have a clear understanding of the 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
- To afford each contestant, an opportunity to earn a college scholarship
- To promote intellectual thinking
- To present a positive express of an original written and oral presentation of the chosen theme

Competition

When: Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. during the Inspirational Session
Where: Wolverine State Convention Headquarters
615 South Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

Contestants are students currently enrolled in his or her senior year of high school and will be graduating prior to September 2012, with the expressed intent of continuing their education in a college or university setting.

The contestants will participate in a multiple-step process (the winner of the contest will move to the next step):

1. Compete in their church's Oratorical Contest
2. Compete in their local District Association Oratorical Contest
3. Compete in the Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest
4. Compete in the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest

The contestant chosen after the Wolverine State Congress competition will have their oration submitted by Dr. Addis Moore, Congress President, and Dr. Jean O. Smith, State Oratorical Contest Director, to the National Baptist offices.

Organization of 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), 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.

Other Instructions

- The contestants presentation attire is Males: Slacks, Suit Coats and Shirts with Ties and Females: Dress or Suit with Hosiery
- The contestants are to stand, approach the podium, state the theme and begin their memorized rendition, within the frame of the podium (without moving across the stage).
- The contestants are not allowed to use introductions or reference protocols
- To contestants are not allowed to state their names or any other identifying information during the oratorical presentation
- The contestants oratorical presentation must avoid speaking in sermonette tones or testimonials, and must avoid excessive gestures
- The contestant is not allowed to use special props, costumes, clothing or prompts
- The contestant will automatically be disqualified subsequent to any violation of these guidelines

Judges

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 and in the “event of a tie” the contestant that has the highest intangible score will be the willing contestant. The Judges overall decision is Final!

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education

Judges Score Sheet – 2012 (SAMPLE)

THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND MAY NOT BE THE ACTUAL SCORING SHEET

Contestant Number# _____

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 (Printed)

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.

1. Content
 - a. Scriptural References
 - b. Clarity of Purpose
 - c. Ideas
 - d. Logic
 - e. Adherence to Baptist Doctrine
 - f. Diction
2. Composition
 - a. Structure
 - b. Organization
 - c. Support Material
3. Introduction/Closing
 - a. Effective
 - b. Memorable
 - c. Summarization of Key Points
 - d. Thought Provoking
 - e. Engaging & Relevant (Use of anecdote, poem, question, challenge, or change, etc. that is relevant to the topic)
4. Originality
 - a. Original Through
 - b. Informative & Through Provoking
5. Delivery
 - a. Memorization
 - b. Enunciation/Pronunciation/Articulation
 - c. Eye Contact
6. Decorum/Attire
 - a. Attire (Young Ladies-no pants; Young Men-suit and tie; adornment/accessories that do not distract delivery or reception of speech.)
 - b. Posture/Poise/Limited
 - c. Limited Gestures
 - d. Body Language