



Oratorical Program

Presented By
The Oratorical Commission
Department of California

Area 1 Commissioner

Arlene Salvador

A new Commissioner this year 2023-2024 in Area 1.

Promotes the Oratorical Program at all levels of the Department of California within Area 1.



Area 2 Commissioner



Larry Maggio

A Commissioner for many years in Area 2.

The Oratorical Co-Chair for the Department of California for the past 3 years.

Oratorical participation at all levels of the Department within Area 2.

Area 3 Commissioner

- **Mildred S. Wright-Pearson**

- A Commissioner for over 5 years in the Department.
- The Oratorical Chair for the Department of California for the past 3 years.
- Oratorical participation at all levels of the Department within Area 3.





Area 4 Commissioner

- **Gil Soto**

A Commissioner for many years in Area 4.

Promotes the Oratorical Program for the Department of California for several years and at all levels of the Department in Area 4.

Area 5 Commissioner

- **Josephine Thomas**

A Commissioner and prior Chair combined for over 8 years in the Department for Area 5.

Oratorical participation at all levels of the Department within Area 5.



Area 6 Commissioner



Danielle Baker

A Commissioner for over 6 years in the Department for Area 6.

A staunch supporter of the Program. Oratorical participation at all levels of the Department within Area 6.

Technical Assistant

- **David “Ben” Gibson**

- A current Technical Assistant (TA) for the Oratorical Commission. Prior Commissioner for 8-10 years. Always willing to provide expertise to improve the promotion and implementation of the Oratorical Program.





Oratorical Contest Photos

Photos by Post, District, and Area
Historians

Area 1 District 6



Oratorical Participants 2024

Area 1



**Winner
2024**



Department Winner 2021

Department 2nd Place 2021





Department 3rd Place 2021



2024 Oratorical Awards Announcement

2024 Oratorical Contest
Feb 25, 2024



Thanks to the participating
Judges

Department Oratorical
Contest Feb 25, 2024



2024 Oratorical Awards Presentation

Department Oratorical
Contest Feb 28, 2024



**Department
Congratulatory Cake
25 February 2024**

National Oratorical Winner

Aubrey Moore
Renton, Washington
May 2024





How to Plan an Oratorical Contest

What is needed to Conduct a Contest

- ❖ All documents required per National standards and an understanding of contest paperwork requirements
- ❖ School contact – can be home schooled, parochial, magnet, etc.
- ❖ Legion Post and District willing to participate and follow requirements
- ❖ Location that complies with contest needs
- ❖ Scheduling date in compliance with District, Area, and Department timeline
- ❖ Participants that have had a background check when required per Department guidelines

What is needed to Conduct a Contest

- ❖ Certificates for presentation to the participating students (others are optional)
- ❖ First, Second, and Third Oratorical medals (if needed)
- ❖ Monetary prizes based on ability to give
- ❖ Food and beverages for participants and guests

What Forms/Booklets are Required

- ❖ National Program Chairman's Guide
- ❖ National HS Oratorical Scholarship Program Brochure
- ❖ National HS Oratorical Scholarship Official Rules
- ❖ National HS Oratorical Scholarship one page flyer
- ❖ Copy of the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States of America (As Amended)
- ❖ Risk Management Guidebook
- ❖ W-9 for each student
- ❖ Department of California Oratorical Contestant Participation Pledge Form

What Forms/Booklets are Required

- ❖ Judges Briefing, Excel Tabulation Spreadsheet, Excel Judges Spreadsheet
- ❖ Prepared and Assigned Oration Scratch Talley Sheets
- ❖ Judge Scorecard
- ❖ Written Responsibilities for Timekeepers, Escorts, Ushers, Assigned Topic Prep Room Monitor, Tabulators, Judges
- ❖ Current year's Prepared and Assigned Topics

Miscellaneous Items to Support Contest

- ❖ Flyers for notification of the event
- ❖ Event Program
- ❖ Signage for holding rooms, arrows to event room, and silence
- ❖ Stop watches or cell phones with knowledgeable operators
- ❖ Numbering system for identifying contestants
- ❖ Laptop to compute scores with knowledgeable operators
- ❖ Finger foods and beverages – optional (No Alcohol)

Where to find your Materials

- ❖ Legion.org > Programs > Oratorical > Resources – here you will find much information and materials needed
- ❖ W9 form can be found online
- ❖ Department of California Oratorical Contestant Participation Pledge Form can be obtained from your Area Commissioner
- ❖ Risk Management Book on Department website



Q & A