

# 2014 ALABAMA AMERICAN LEGION

## NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Telephone: 334-262-6638

Willie Rogers – Chairman – 334-467-5039

**ELIGIBILITY:** Eligible participants in The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest shall be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States.

All contestants must be bona fide students herein described as any students under the age of twenty (20) years on the date of the National Contest who is presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or state accredited home school) in which the curriculum of said school is considered to be of high school level commencing with grade nine (9) and terminating with grade twelve (12). Students must be enrolled in high school or junior high school during the time of participation at any level of The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest.

The three finalist of the National Contest will be ineligible for further participation at any level.

In order to receive the first place award at any level within the Department of Alabama, the winner must represent the American Legion at the next level of the contest.

**PREPARED ORATION:** The subject to be used for the Prepared Oration must be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The Same subject and oration used in the Department Contest must be used in the National Contest.

In the Prepared Oration, as well as in the Assigned Topic Discourse, quotations must be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than ten words in length, the author's name must be given in the manuscript and cited orally.

The Prepared Oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must not take up less than eight (8) minutes or more than ten (10) minutes for delivery. It must be delivered in the English language.

Contestants may have in their possession a copy of their Prepared Oration in the first Holding Room.

They may consult the copy of their Prepared Oration, until they exit the Holding Room in order to begin the contest, at which time the copy of the Prepared Oration will be given to the contest official that is monitoring the First Holding Room.

**ASSIGNED TOPIC:** The Assigned Topic Discourse must not consume less than three (3) minutes or more than five (5) minutes for delivery. The purpose of the Assigned Topic is to test the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of his or her research, and the ability to discuss the topic as related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution. The Assigned Topic shall be drawn by the contest official in full view of the audience immediately before the last speaker begins delivery of his/her Prepared Oration and will be made known to the audience and each contestant approximately five (5) minutes prior to time of delivery. The topic will be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States, selected from the Articles and Sections as listed under Assigned Topics for the current year's contest in this brochure. All contestants at each contest level are required to speak in the English language on the same Assigned Topic