

American Legion Invites High School Students to Compete in Speech Contest

Winners will earn scholarship money and a chance to compete in national finals.

High school students in Abilene Texas and surrounding area Communities have been invited by Marshall Scott Jamar Post 61, Abilene Texas of The American Legion Department of Texas to compete in the 2023 - 2024 annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program.

The subject in the prepared oration portion of the contest must be about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the U. S. government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must be 8-10 minutes in length. The second speech called the assigned topic will be chosen by the audience from one of the four Amendments selected by National. The contestant will be given the Amendment chosen 5 minutes prior to having to give their oration. This speech will be 3-5 minutes in length.

In addition to the awards by winners of the various elimination rounds of competition, college scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places in the national finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Participants in the second round who do not advance to the national final round will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship.

The top three youth orators who have won all previous elimination rounds of the contest will vie for top honors in the national contest in April in Indianapolis.

The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the national contest.

College scholarships in various amounts from \$300 to \$500 will be awarded to the Post, District and Division winners.

High school students who are interested in entering the competition will find complete rules and contest information at legion.org/oratorical.

Students wishing to compete must contact the following Post members No Later Than 1 November 2023:

Post 61 Commander Rich Lewis at email: binglew1069@yahoo.com or cell (706) 618 - 0050

Post 61 Adjutant Ken Simonton at email: kenmsimonton@gmail.com or cell (325) 428 - 9972

Negative replies from the High School Staff would be appreciated No Later Than 1 November 2023.

Sincerely


KENNETH M. SIMONTON
Adjutant Post 61