

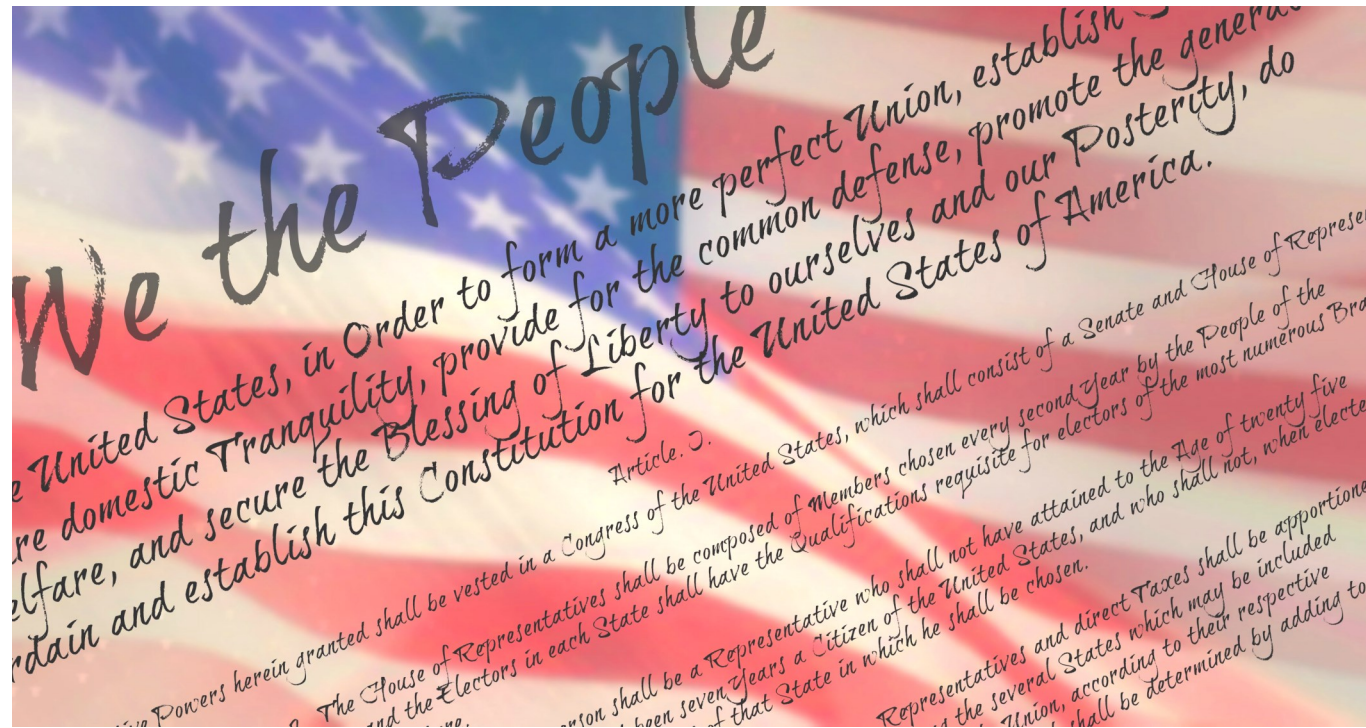
Contest Dates and Locations

Each post, district and county sets their own competition dates. Most will be held sometime in January to accommodate the State and Regional Competition. District winners advance to the Regional and State Contest.

The 78th Annual High School Oratorical Regional and Final Contests will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2015 at the Rodman Center on the Ripon College Campus.



The Wisconsin Competition winner will then advance to The American Legion National level of competition at the Wyndham Indianapolis West in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 10 to April 12, 2015.



For more information, visit the Oratorical page on our website at <http://www.wilegion.org>.

Or contact Department Headquarters:

The American Legion
Department of Wisconsin
2930 American Legion Drive
PO Box 388
Portage, WI 53901
608-745-1090 or (Toll-free)855-945-4466
dawn@wilegion.org

Oratorical Scholarship Program

The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program is "A Constitutional Speech Contest" which presents participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Assigned Topics 2014-2015

The Oratorical Program is open to all area high school students. Each participant must be sponsored by a local Legion Post.

The contests begin at the local or post level, with the opportunity for participants to advance to the county, district, regional, state and, ultimately, the national level.

Each contestant delivers two orations, the first being a prepared eight to 10 minute oration about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and responsibilities of U.S. citizens.

The second oration consists of a three to five minute speech on a randomly assigned constitutional topic. There are four assigned topics and, because they are randomly selected by the Oratorical Chairman at each competition, students must be prepared to speak on all of them.

The use of notes, props, a lectern, prompting of any type, and amplification devices are not allowed during the actual oratorical presentations.

Participants are ranked by a panel of qualified judges whose decision is final. Specific rules for breaking possible ties are strictly adhered to.

Amendment 5: *No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.*

Amendment 6: *In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining Witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.*

Amendment 8: *Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.*

Amendment 19: *The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.*

Scholarship Opportunities:

* District winners qualify for Regional Competition

Participants eliminated at the Regional level receive \$600

Three Regional Winners receive \$1000 and compete for the State title

The State 2nd runner up receives an additional \$1000

The State 1st runner up receives an additional \$1500

The Department Winner receives an additional \$2000

* Additional scholarship awards are presented to participants speaking at the National level