



# Assigned Topics 2022-2023

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.

## **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

## **Amendment VI**

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 X**

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

## **Amendment XIV, Section 1**

All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

## **Amendment XVI**

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.