Oratorical Guidelines & Form

**2016 Theme: “Unapologetically Black”**

**2016 Dates and Locations**

**October 1, 2016**

**Northern Cluster**

Hilton Boston-Dedham Hotel

Dedham, MA

Forms must be emailed by September 23, 2016

**October 15, 2016**

**Delaware Valley Cluster**

Doubletree by Hilton-Philadelphia Valley Forge

King of Prussia, PA

Forms must be emailed by October 1, 2016

**October 29, 2016**

**Southern Cluster**

Marriott-Bethesda North

North Bethesda, MD

Forms must be emailed by October 15, 2016

**November 5, 2016**

**Metropolitan Cluster**

Doubletree by Hilton

Tarrytown, NY

Forms must be emailed by October 22, 2016

***ORATORICAL COMPETITION PARTICIPATION FORM***

\*To participate in the Oratorical Competition, this form must be completed and returned to the Regional Secretary by the cluster specific deadline.

\*\*It is important that once you submit this form that your child participates. Please speak with your child prior to submitting the form to ensure their commitment.

Chapter: Click here to enter text.

Participant’s Name: Click here to enter text.

Birth date: Click here to enter text. Grade: Click here to enter text.

Mother’s Name: Click here to enter text.

Best contact telephone number: Click here to enter text.

[ ]   Division I (ages 13 - 15) [ ]  Division II (ages 16 - 19)

*(Check one)*

Teen Advisor’s Name: Click here to enter text.

Teen Advisor’s Telephone Number: f

*Please return this form to:*

**Margaret Gibson**

**Eastern Region Secretary**

**Oratorical Form**

**jjeasternrsmargaret@gmail.com**

\*\*ALL ORATORICAL CONTEST FIRST PLACE WINNERS MUST BE REGISTERED FOR THE TEEN CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL ORATORICAL COMPETITION.

***ORATORICAL COMPETITION RULES***

The Jack and Jill Oratorical Competition will be completed in two phases. The first phase of the competition, the cluster level event as described in this document is conducted at all Eastern Region Cluster Workdays. First place winners at the workday cluster advance to the regional level. The final phase of the competition, takes place at the Eastern Regional Teen Conferences. **All first place winners must be registered for the teen conference in order to participate in the Regional Oratorical Competition.**

**THE JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL AT BOTH LEVELS.**

**PHASE I - CLUSTER LEVEL (***PHASE II IS COMPLETED AT THE TEEN REGIONAL CONFERENCE)*

This is an activity for teens at the Cluster Level. Teens from each chapter in the Cluster will participate in either Division I (13 to 15 years) or Division II (16 to 19 years) competition. **Teens must be the appropriate age in the division selected by the date of the cluster.** A panel of competent, non-partisan judges will select one winner from each division. Parents of participating teens may not act as judges nor may they be in attendance during judging. The Cluster division first place winners will compete on the Regional Level.

Speeches are to be researched, prepared, and written and developed ONLY by the teen contestants. However, they may be coached and/or advised in final preparation for the competition.

The topic for the Oratorical Competition will be the selected Teen Conference theme.

**Speech/Spoken Word Guidelines**

1. Competitors must state their topic, prior to commencing the speech. A five (5)-point penalty is deducted by the timekeeper for failure to comply. Any salutation to judges, audience member, etc., should precede the announcement of the topic.
2. No special props, costumes, clothing or prompts are permitted. Competitors who do not comply are disqualified.
3. Three (3) minutes are allowed for each speech. A speech may not be less than two and a half minutes (150 seconds) or more than three minutes (180 seconds) in length. Participants who fail to meet the time parameters will be penalized one (1) point for each two second time block (or fraction thereof) under or over the allocated time. Timing of the speech begins immediately after the speaker gives the topic. Timing stops when the speaker finishes. The official timekeeper will make all determinations regarding the actual length of the speeches. The timekeeper’s decisions are final.
4. Competitors may use notes.

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**Scoring**

1. Personal factors – maximum 20 points. Appearance, personality, poise, and body language will be considered.
2. Organization of Material – maximum 30 points. Subject/theme, adherence to subject/theme; logic, and value will be considered.

Presentation and Delivery – maximum 30 points. Voice quality, enunciation, pronunciation, gestures and emphasis will be considered.

Overall Effectiveness – maximum 20 points. Appeal, effect, polish, and showmanship will be considered.

**Awards**

1. Certificate of Participation to all contestants.

2. Winner of Division I at Teen Conference (13-15 Yr. Old) $500.00

 Winner of Division II at Teen Conference (16-19 Yr. Old) $750.00

3. The winners of each cluster for Division I and II will receive $250.00 off their registration for

 Teen Conference.