

## ANNOUNCING THE 16th ANNUAL AMERICAN LEGION JUNIOR ORATORICAL CONTEST

The New Hampshire Department of the American Legion is very pleased to inform you of the Junior Oratorical Program. The purpose of the program is to allow students in grades 6 through 8 an opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the Constitution of the United States. This will help serve as a steppingstone for the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest, and will also help develop, at a young age the ability to address an audience.

The contest consists of two parts. First the students prepare and give an oration of 3 to 5 minutes on some phase of the United States Constitution. Then they will speak for 2 to 3 minutes on one of three assigned topics relating to the United States Constitution, made available prior to the contest. See the enclosed brochure for details.

All students in State of New Hampshire accredited schools or approved home study students in grades 6 through 8 are eligible through their assigned schools and districts. The First Place prize is a check for \$500.00; Second Place prize is \$400; Third Place prize is a \$300; Fourth Place prize is a \$200; Fifth Place prize is a \$100. Runners up receive \$25.00 each.

The contest will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at St. Anselm College. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Contestants are asked to arrive before 8:30 for orientation. Please promote this program at your school, and contact the American Legion Department of New Hampshire, if you have any questions or need help in any way. We are here to assist you. This experience should prove to be both valuable and rewarding to the students and teachers involved. We appreciate your support.

This experience will build their confidence in both speaking before an audience and knowledge of the Constitution and will help prepare them for the High School level oratorical program where over \$1000 in scholarships is awarded at the State level competition. State level winners go on to the National competition where over \$18,000 in scholarships is awarded.

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